Daily Report

Near East & South Asia

FBIS-NES-87-195
Thursday
8 October 1987

Daily Report
Near East & South Asia

FBIS-NES-87-195 *8 October 1987*

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LD081323 [Editorial Report]

Gulf Conflict

Shipping Attacks—Gulf shipping sources stated that Iranian gunboats were probably responsible for an 8 October attack on a cargo vessel some 50 km from the Saudi port of Al-Jubayl, AFP reported. An "unidentified missile" struck the engine room of the Japanese-owned chemical tanker *Tomoe-8*, causing a fire and injuring three crew members, the sources disclosed. A related *Kyodo* report noted that an Iranian ship had contacted the *Tomoe-8* before the attack, though the agency added that shippers are puzzled by the size of the missile, which was "unusually large" for an Iranian attack.

The Iraqi Air Force attacked a "very large" maritime target south of Khark Island the same morning, scoring an "accurate and effective" hit, Iraq announced in a military statement broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio.

As for the 7 October Iranian gunboat attack on the Saudi tanker *Ra'd al-Bakri VIII*, INA noted a Lloyds report that the vessel was damaged by rockets and machinegun fire but was able to continue its journey to Ra's al-Tannurah. INA also cited statistics published by Lloyds showing that Iran has lost up to a third of its oil export capacity since the resumption of heavy Iraqi air raids in September. Iran has been obliged to charter eight additional oil tankers in an attempt to cover the damage inflicted by Iraqi aircraft, the report added.

Iraqi Raids on Iran—An Iraqi communique broadcast by Voice of the Masses announced that 50 Iraqi planes raided troop concentrations behind Iranian lines 8 October, dropping "devastating fireballs" on the enemy army. The "preemptive" strike was aimed at thwarting an Iranian offensive in the central sector against Iraq's II Army Corps, the communique indicated. Iraqi aircraft had raided the Ilam radio station the previous day "to silence the voice of falsehood," according to a communique carried by Baghdad radio. The planes reportedly destroyed their targets and returned safely. Tehran radio acknowledged the raid on Ilam, but asserted that the Iraqi aircraft targeted two schools, inflicting "considerable" damage. One Iranian was killed and several were wounded in the raid, the radio said.

Iran on U.S. 'Violation'—A U.S. warship warned an Iranian patrol plane to change route 8 October, but the aircraft "successfully carried out its mission," an Iranian Air Force source told IRNA. He said the incident took place when an Iranian aircraft was carrying out a routine patrol over international waters in the Jask region, near the mouth of the Strait of Hormuz. The source described the U.S. act as an "open violation of maritime laws," IRNA added, and a War Information Headquarters spokesman likewise affirmed Iran's "undeniable right" to conduct patrol flights over international waters.

OPEC

King Fahd and the Kuwaiti oil minister have expressed their countries' willingness to implement an oil production monitoring system provided the other OPEC countries follow suit, OPECNA and KUNA reported. A three-man OPEC Committee assigned to monitor oil production levels in the 13 OPEC countries has so far visited Saudi Arabia and Kuwait in a tour to also include visits to the UAE, Qatar, Iraq, and Iran, KUNA noted.

Syria

The second secretary at the Syrian Embassy in Brussels was shot to death, AFP reported, adding that the "People's Mujahidin Organization" claimed responsibility. According to the same report, the Iranian opposition group Mojahedin-e Khalq denied any involvement in the incident. The clandestine Radio Free Lebanon reported that the "Syrian Mujahidin" organization claimed responsibility for the shooting of the "agent of the Syrian intelligence service."

Israel

Industry and Trade Minister Ari'el Sharon told *Hadashot* that the rapid growth of the Arab population in Israel is a "problem" that bothers him more than the issue of the Arabs of Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza. It is "inconceivable" that the Israeli Arabs should be able to affect the outcome of elections while they bear neither all the obligations nor all the rights of other Israeli citizens, he said. Sharon added that the solution of this problem is for the Israeli Arabs to share "all the obligations and all the rights."

PLO

PLO Political Department chief Faruq Qaddumi said that statements about "a retreat" in the Soviet stand on the PLO are "a big lie," Radio Monte Carlo reported. Qaddumi added that Soviet leaders will receive PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat in Moscow "before the end of this month."

In another development, QNA cited a UAE press report that Qaddumi met with Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' while in New York to attend the UN General Assembly.

Libya

Jallud on Chad—In a speech broadcast by Tripoli television, Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Jallud said Libya is unwilling to accept a border war with Chad, stressing that "we can destroy the source of aggression and we are preparing to do so."

USSR Contacts—Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi received a Soviet special envoy in the Libyan capital, Tripoli Television reported. The Soviet envoy also held "frank" talks with the foreign liaison secretary, TASS noted.

Tunisia

Two Muslim fundamentalists belonging to the Islamic Tendency Movement were executed 8 October, Tunis radio announced.

Palestinian Affairs

Qaddumi on Shultz Tour, 'Arafat's Moscow Visit

JN071836 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1730 GMT 7 Oct 87

[Huda Tawfiq dispatch from New York]

[Text] Faruq Qaddumi, head of the PLO Political Department, has said that the PLO pins no hopes on Shultz' tour of the region within a few days.

In a dialogue with our radio at UN headquarters, Qaddumi said that the Soviet and Chinese foreign ministers had emphasized to him the need for PLO participation in the peace conference in a manner acceptable to it vis-a-vis the representation of the Palestinian people.

He added: Statements about a retreat in the Soviet stand are a big lie. The Soviets will receive Yasir 'Arafat in Moscow before the end of this month.

In this dialogue, Qaddumi rejected joint representation with Jordan. He said the PLO should have either independent representation or be represented through a joint Arab delegation. He called for coordination among the PLO, Egypt, Jordan, and Syria and not with Jordan alone.

He added that there are no normal relations with Syria and the PLO is exerting efforts in the hope that Syria will respond.

Palestinian Central Council Issues Statement

LD072241 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2110 GMT 7 Oct 87

[Text] Tunis, 7 Sep (SPA)—The Palestinian Central Council has called on the Iranian regime to immediately stop the war and adhere to UN Security Council Resolution No 598, which calls for an immediate end to the Iraq-Iran war.

In a political statement issued here tonight at the end of its first session, the Council praised Iraq's stance which calls for stopping the war and responds to all mediations exerted toward ending the war. The statement stressed that continuation of the war serves nothing but foreign interests and powers.

The Council urged the PLO Executive Committee to take the practical measures necessary to consolidate the Palestinian people's steadfastness on their land, at all social, economic, and humanitarian levels, and to confront the Zionist calls for evicting the Palestinian people from their homeland.

The Council saluted the continuing Palestinian uprising in the face of occupation and condemned the policies of usurpation and eviction. It also stressed the necessity for international organizations to intervene to oppose these policies.

The Council called on Arab and international humanitarian organizations to concentrate their efforts to lift the siege on the Palestinian camps in Lebanon, which has continued for 3 years.

The Council stressed that the restoration of Arab solidarity takes priority in pan-Arab action and commissioned the Executive Committee to undertake an Arab-wide tour to explain the dangers threatening the Palestinian people and the Arab nation.

The Council condemned the U.S. decision to close the Palestinian information bureau in Washington and described the decision as a link in the chain of attempts to blur the Palestinian issue in the eyes of international public opinion.

AL-ANBA' Interviews PLO's Salah Khalaf

JN051421 Kuwait AL-ANBA' in Arabic 3 Oct 87 p 19

["First part" of an interview with Salah Khalaf, member of the Fatah Central Committee, identified by his nom de guerre Abu Iyad, by Mahmud Khalil; date, place not given]

[Text] [Khalil] How does Brother Abu Iyad assess the condition of the Palestinian house 4 months after the convocation of the PNC unification session in Algiers?

[Khalaf] Actually, the divisions witnessed by the Palestinians during 4 years of fighting made it incumbent upon us to reach a common political denominator. This was achieved during the PNC unification session. However, certain organizational matters have remained a bone of contention. One of these is Palestinian decision-making; how decisions are to be made and how they can be binding on everyone.

We are accustomed to collective leadership. In other words, there is no such thing as a majority vote in revolutionary action. Decisions are not voted upon. This will be difficult if political action is made subject to individual effort, especially on matters of detail and secondary issues. We feel that since an agreement has been reached on the basic political issue, the political leadership should have the freedom to act on all levels.

Actually, this issue is still a bone of contention, as is the interpretation of some PNC resolutions. For example, some interpret the 18th PNC resolutions on Egypt as meaning an estrangement with Egypt while others interpret it as not meaning estrangement but that relations with Egypt must instead be restricted within the framework of concern to save Egypt from Camp David. The issue of contacts with the Israeli democratic forces is another issue which is subject to interpretation. Differences exist on defining these democratic forces and which of them can be described as democratic.

All this means that there still are detailed matters concerning the exercise of the PLO's daily activities that are a bone of contention. Should decisions be made by the majority, by unanimity, or on the basis of reaching an understanding on political issues that are not clearly defined, such as the Egyptian issue?

I believe that these are only secondary differences, especially since everyone is determined to make the unification experience a success. This is because the specter of the former divisions and their impact on the Palestinian and Arab arenas scare everyone. That is why any breach is being immediately remedied. From this premise, I can truthfully ascertain that the experience has succeeded and is proceeding firmly but slowly in view of the negative factors that formerly prevailed.

[Khalil] Can we understand from all this that the Palestinian house is now in order and that it will not be affected by any whirlwinds?

[Khalaf] I do not believe that there is any cause for worry. This is because differences and discussions will take place within the one Palestinian house and not outside it. I am convinced that any opposition to, dispute, or difference on an idea, principle, or action must take place within the house and not outside it. The experience of divisions outside the Palestinian house has shown us that opposition from outside the house serves the Arab regimes but does not serve the Palestinian revolution.

[Khalil] In this regard, what is your comment on the PFLP's reaction to 'Arafat's meeting with President Mubarak? Internally, the Front reacted violently. By this I mean the expulsion of Political Bureau member Bassam Abu Sharif for participating in the meeting.

[Khalaf] I do not think that Bassam Abu Sharif was expelled because of his participation in the meeting with President Mubarak. That meeting was rather the straw that broke the camel's back. It seems that there were differences between the PFLP Command and Bassam Abu Sharif prior to that meeting. In any case, this was their decision. If Brother Bassam respects this decision then so do we. But we hope that Bassam will not be forgotten as a struggler who lost the prettiest part of man—his face—in a Zionist bomb explosion as a result of a Zionist grudge against him.

We do not forget Bassam's past, but we also respect the PFLP Command and institutions. This is their decision. I believe that Bassam can appeal against the decision at the Central Committee meetings or through the Front's general congress. I support such an appeal although Bassam has full freedom to express his dissatisfaction with this decision in any way he likes.

[Khalil] This means that the Palestinian house, regardless of all differences...?

[Khalaf—interrupting] I believe that if there are no differences within the Palestinian house and the one movement, this movement would be dead and unworthy of life. However, these differences should not divide us. Therefore, we call them differences within unity.

[Khalil] What about the Palestinian factions that did not participate in the PNC unification session? These factions are the Popular Struggle Front, the PFLP-GC, and Al-Sa'iqah. It is well known that the PLO Executive Committee has formed a special committee for dialogue with these factions. How successful has this committee been?

[Khalaf] To be frank in discussing this subject, I would like to say that the factions that did not participate had earlier participated up to the last moment in meetings held prior to the PNC session. They were represented by their general secretaries and political bureaus. However, their decision is linked to an understanding with Syria. Once there is an understanding with Syria, dialogue with them will be easy. If this understanding, which we care for and aspire to, does not take place—in the sense that Syria does not take a positive step toward dialogue with the PLO—these organizations will continue to be far from joining in the unity.

Brother Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi tried hard to bring them into unity but all his attempts failed. Once we reach an understanding with Syria, it will be very easy to reach an understanding with them. We welcomed and continue to welcome meeting with them. The latest of these invitations was our welcome of the invitation Brother Mu'ammar extended to all Palestinian factions to meet in Tripoli. We communicated our acceptance of this invitation through Brother Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir], but they rejected this invitation because the basic issue was unresolved.

[Khalil] Can we say that the dialogue committee's efforts have failed?

[Khalaf] There is no need to say that they have failed. This is because the committee's efforts will continue until efforts being exerted by the Soviet comrades and Libyan brothers succeed in rectifying relations with Syria.

[Khalil] Brother Abu Iyad, I would like to ask you this long question: Fatah, which is the backbone of the PLO, has been split. You have Abu Musa [Sa'id Musa Muragha], Abu Salih, Al-'Amlah, Qadri [Samih Abu Kuwayk], and Abu al-Za'im ['Atallah Muhammad 'Atallah]. In addition to this, the internal features of the Fatah Movement are not clear at present. There has been much talk about the need to convene a Fatah Movement congress, but nothing has happened.

As a prominent Fatah leader, what do you think about the internal situation of the movement? Has Fatah been able to contain and end the results of the divisionist

movements? Can we say that the movement's congress will be convened soon, especially since Fatah leaders' recent statements indicate that the preparatory committee has ended its work and recommended the need to convene the congress? Frankly, what prevents the convening of that congress if we put the issue of place and date aside?

[Khalaf] If conditions within Fatah are not sound, there will be no sound national unity or Palestinian arena. This is natural. The Fatah Movement, which started in 1965 and has continued for a long period of time without splits, lost very important members who were neither dissidents nor separatists. On the contrary, they were honest people but nobody knew them. They did not quit because they wanted to avert the battle but because they could not stand certain tactics. There have been other separatist trends, but we managed to deal with them wisely and secretly.

The split which took place in the movement in 1983 was the biggest one. This split was based on certain ideas and principles being adopted by Fatah. After the dissent I gave a news conference in Kuwait to announce that I supported all these ideas and reforms but voiced my rejection of the way the dissidents expressed these ideas. I do not want to say that certain arrangements helped these dissidents to continue to exist. The ideas and the slogans of the dissidents existed before the PLO's departure from Beirut. Why did they not discuss these ideas and slogans with us when we were able to make decisions in Beirut and the south?

I do not want to justify this dissent by saying that the loose international situation in the movement helped these dissidents to announce their dissent. Frankly, we were responsible for that situation which justified the dissent. Despite this, I can say that by raising arms against their brothers and shedding Palestinian blood, the dissidents made a big mistake and paralyzed all previous decisions. With the passage of time, the dissidents began to do the same things they had rejected in the movement, such as using expensive cars, nepotism, private and public allocations, and illegal expenditures. They are doing these things and they are no longer revolutionaries.

Why didn't Abu Salih and Qadri continue their march instead of staying at home? This is because they sensed the great differnce between practice and theory. Certain sides also interfered in their daily life. They ignored certain facts and thought they might be able to establish a strategic alliance. Their movement was doomed to failure. At the beginning of the dissent, I told them this through the press and that they would never be allowed to raise higher revolutionary slogans.

It is well known that Abu al-Za'im used to be an anomalous state in the Palestinian arena and within Fatah and continues to be so. The regrettable thing is that he should have been dismissed years ago, before he dissented. He, however, managed to take with him the filth which was in the movement. This is the only service he rendered to the movement. He is now wagering on the establishment of a substitute organization. However, I say that he is a losing horse. He will find himself alone and will lose all his friends. We know who is financing him.

What I would like to say here is that Abu al-Za'im's presence among us before he dissented meant that there was something wrong within the movement in addition to the series of mistakes that were made. That's why we were calling for a general congress to correct these mistakes and this erroneous state of affairs.

You are asking me about the state of affairs within the Fatah Movement. I believe that the first dissident movement that took place had a negative impact on the Fatah Movement, especially since the people who carried out this dissident movement were honest. I wish they had remained within the movement because they are not bad people. They have harmed themselves and we have lost them. They cannot be compared to Abu al-Za'im's group, but as a result of their behavior and practices, they have become worse. What is important here is that the state of affairs within the movement has now returned to normal. Differences of opinion and disputes continue to occur within the movement. This is normal in any movement. These differences revolve on how things are done.

I have no right to say which party is right and which is wrong. The Fatah Congress settles these differences. However, these differences will never lead to division and fragmentation because we all know that division and fragmentation is a very serious state. One can follow these differences through the statements by Fatah leaders and which are sometimes contradictory. However, this is the nature of our movement. We are not a party. We are a national liberation movement. We meet, agree, and disagree. We voice our differences and the points on which we agree. There are many issues on which we all agree.

Events that are out of our control delay the convocation of the Fatah Congress. The representatives of the Palestinians in Lebanon, Syria, and Jordan must attend this congress. There is no problem with respect to the representatives in Jordan, but there is a problem with respect to our representatives in Syria and Lebanon. If the cadres in these two arenas, which should attend the conference and they are large in number, do attend the congress, then this means that we will be vacating these two arenas. That's why we are waiting for a suitable opportunity to settle this question of representation.

We do not want a congress where there will be no fighters. This is the real reason why the congress has not yet convened. The Fatah Central Committee is unanimous on the importance of convening such a congress. The necessary arrangements have been made but we are

waiting for the appropriate circumstances to settle this question. We all are in agreement on the need to amend the movement's bylaws and the political, financial, and military state of affairs, but we are waiting for the suitable opportunity to do this.

[Khalil] In case the movement's general congress convenes, do you believe that the differences and transgressions which you earlier discussed will be removed?

[Khalaf] Let us say that there are two types of differences within the Fatah Movement. I do not believe that political differences will end or stop. Here it must be pointed out that organizational imbalance is the issue which must be handled at the congress with clarity and frankness.

[Khalil] The Arab-Palestinian relationship is full of contradictions and differences which reach the extent of estrangement, particularly with the confrontation states. Why do these differences exist? Is it that the Arab plan and the Palestinian plan have collided or is it the opposite?

[Khalaf] I will begin my answer with a word from the question. I wonder: Where is the Arab plan so that we may collide with it? Is it true that the confrontation states constitute one integrated plan? For example, are Egypt and Syria in agreement? Are Lebanon and Syria in agreement? In my opinion, there is no single Arab plan for us to collide with. Instead, there are Arab plans. In view of the fact that the Palestinian revolution does not possess land, outside the occupied territories, there are differences with the frontline states. Here we can say that we are in disagreement with the different plans of the confrontation states, including Egypt, Syria, and Jordan.

The main reason for this is that there are natural differences between any revolution and all regimes. A revolution conflicts with a regime because a revolution is an irresponsible party. In other words, a revolution does not adhere much to legal and international matters nor can it make people have a specific understanding of defined laws. Moreover, there is no Arab plan to resolve the Palestine question linked to the military option which yields political results.

I believe that if there is actually a clear Arab strategy, whether drawn up by the confrontation states or by other countries, calling for a military option to serve political action which will also serve the Palestine question, then the Palestine revolution will be criminal if it rejects such a strategy. But, as is known, there is no clear axis in the Arab world calling for a military option which will yield clear and fixed political results.

Therefore, we in the Palestinian revolution will naturally collide with any Arab plan which conflicts with these rules. We are now colliding with regimes. For example, we had differences with Egypt because it was unreasonable not to have differences with Al-Sadat. Can we say the Camp David accords are good and follow their political course? This is unreasonable, of course.

We believe that President Mubarak differs from Al-Sadat. We said this from the start. We dealt with him on this basis. We said that we have to establish some kind of a relationship that makes Egypt and its military and political weight bolster and support Arab causes. We put up with all of Al-Sadat's encumbrances before he went to Jerusalem. Yet Jihan al-Sadat recently said that we are unfaithful. Can I be faithful to a person who traded my country for Sinai?

Had he preserved the political prestige he gained after the October war and insisted on not establishing relations with Israel until the Palestinians attain their rights, the issue would have been different. We would have been on the point of starting comprehensive and realistic national solutions and not searching for solutions to find a place for us in the international conference within a Jordanian delegation on the basis of Resolution 242.

As far as Syria is concerned, we have had good relations with Syria since 1972 and since President al-Asad came to power. These relations became so strong to the point that we discussed strategic issues with them. We have always been eager to maintain good relations with Syria because it is the heart of the Arab homeland and because of its strategic situation and historical considerations that makes it the key to Lebanon, Jordan, and the occupied land. Despite the pain, we have always extended our arms to the Syrian brothers and told them that we want to hold a dialogue with them. We have asked all of our friends, the USSR, the PRC, and Arab and Palestinian officials, to mediate and rectify our relations with Syria.

As far as Jordan is concerned, we said: Let us turn over a new leaf in our relations. We convened our PNC in Amman and thanked King Husayn for hosting it. After that, relations improved. I am one of those who had not visited Jordan for 14 years. I visited Jordan and met with King Husayn and Jordanian officials. We agreed with Jordan on noninterference in internal affairs. Indeed, they did not interfere in our internal affairs. Afterward we signed the Amman agreement with them. We, the Palestinian leaders, disagreed on this agreement, but because it was approved by the majority we abided by it. Many opposed it because it implied concessions that do not achieve a clear policy.

At the time we said that if the PLO relinquishes its right to represent the Palestinian people and their legitimate rights, it will have no standing or prestige. It will be of lesser standing than the Higher Arab Committee for Palestine which continued to scream that all of Palestine

is for the Arabs to the end. Haj Amin al-Husayni, who was seen off by scores of armed struggle men in Beirut, may rest in his grave and say: I did not concede. I did not sign the concession deal.

Thus, it seems that the confrontation states do not meet on any plan. Moreover, there is no complete Arab plan except for the Fes resolutions which the Arabs did not support. If we drop the military option from the Fes resolutions they will lose their significance. Here, I must say that the thing that should always be discussed because it raises many questions is: Have the Arabs abandoned the military option?

If the Arabs do drop this option they will also lose all hope of any solution or settlement. This is especially true since we will not be able to force Israel to make concessions or bring pressure to bear on the United States. Abandoning the military option at a time when the oil weapon is paralyzed if not dead in the absence of Arab solidarity and unity, and while the Iraq-Iran war is still raging, means that any political talk about a solution or settlement is a losing card.

OPEC Affairs

Tripartite OPEC Committee Talks Open

Indonesian Minister Arrives

LD050938 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 0400 GMT 5 Oct 87

[Text] Dr Subroto, the Indonesian minister of mining and energy, arrived in Riyadh early this morning. He was welcomed upon his arrival at King Khalid International Airport by 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Turki, the under secretary of petroleum and mineral resources; the Indonesian ambassador to the Kingdom; and senior Petroleum and Mineral Resources Ministry officials.

OPEC Chairman Arrives

LD052007 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1855 GMT 5 Oct 87

[Text] Riyadh, 5 Oct (SPA)—His Excellency Rilwan Lukman, Nigerian oil minister and OPEC chairman, arrived in Riyadh this evening.

He was met at the airport by His Excellency Hisham Nazir, minister of petroleum and mineral resources and acting planning minister; Dr Fadil Shalabi, the OPEC assistant secretary general; and undersecretaries at the Petroleum and Mineral Resources Ministry.

Committee Meets 6 Oct

LD061254 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 6 Oct 87

[Excerpt] The tripartite OPEC committee consisting of Al-Haj Rilwan Lukman, Nigeria's oil minister; the Indonesian oil minister; His Excellency the Venezuelan energy minister; and His Excellency Hisham Nazir, [Saudi] minister of petroleum and mineral resources met at the Ministry of Petroleum and Mineral Resources in Riyadh this morning.

Dr Fadil al-Shalabi, OPEC assistant secretary general, also participated in the meeting.

The members of the tripartite OPEC committee arrived in Jeddah from Riyadh this afternoon, accompanied by His Excellency the minister of petroleum and mineral resources, under the framework of their current visit to the Kingdom and as part of their tour of the Gulf region's oil states. [Passage omitted]

Ministers Meet King Fahd

LD061631 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1547 GMT 6 Oct 87

[Text] Jeddah, 6 Oct, (SPA)—King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Sa'ud, custodian of the two holy mosques, this afternoon received at his office in Al-Salam Palace's Royal Court the 3-member OPEC committee comprising Rilwanu Lukman, the Nigerian minister of petroleum resources; Arturo Hernandez, Venezuelan minister of energy and mines; and Dr Subruto, the Indonesian minister of petroleum.

The meeting was attended by Hisham Nazir, the minister of petroleum and mineral resources and acting planning minister; Dr Fadhil al-Chalabi, OPEC's deputy secretary general; 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Turki, the Petroleum and Mineral Resources Ministry under secretary; and His Royal Highness Prince 'Abd al-'Aziz ibn Salman ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, the advisor at the Petroleum Ministry.

King Fahd Restates Adherence

LD071220 Vienna OPECNA in English 1100 GMT 7 Oct 87

[Text] Jeddah, 7 Oct. 87 (OPECNA)—The stability of the world oil market should be of concern to both OPEC and non-OPEC oil producers, King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz of Saudi Arabia told the visiting OPEC ministerial committee Tuesday.

The committee, on a tour of six OPEC member countries in the Gulf region, comprises OPEC Conference President Al-Haj Rilwanu Lukman, Indonesian Mines and Energy Minister Dr Subroto and Venezuelan Energy and Mines Minister Dr Arturo Hernandez Grisanti.

The ministers were received by the king in the presence of Saudi Petroleum and Mineral Resources Minister Hisham M. Nazir. OPEC Deputy Secretary General Dr Fadil al-Shalabi was also present on the occasion.

According to Nazir, the king reaffirmed Saudi Arabia's support of OPEC and adherence to its resolutions.

He stressed the need to discuss all issues before the organization realistically as a means towards the adoption of appropriate resolutions.

Once an agreement was reached, members should respect and implement it, the king counselled.

The Saudi monarch also expressed the readiness of the Kingdom to implement the proposed physical production monitoring system as long as other members agreed to do the same.

The ministerial committee on production compliance is also scheduled to visit Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates, Iraq, Qatar and Iran.

Members Visit Kuwait

LD071725 Kuwait KUNA in English 1508 GMT 7 Oct 87

[By Shamel Khairy]

[Text] Kuwait, Oct 7 (KUNA)—An OPEC committee grouping oil ministers of Nigeria, Venezuela and Indonesia assigned with monitoring oil production of OPEC members met here Wednesday with Oil Minister Shaykh 'Ali al-Khalifa al-Adibi.

Oil Minister of Nigeria Al-Haj Rilwanu Lukman who is the current president of OPEC, Oil Minister of Indonesia Dr Subroto and Venezuelan Minister of Energy and Mines Hernandez Grisanti arrived here yesterday in the course of a Gulf tour.

Shaykh 'Ali told KUNA following the meeting that the tripartite committee target meeting with the heads of states of OPEC's 13 member states to discuss issues relating to the future of the organization and the agreement that should be prepared for from now to be ready by the next ministerial conference due to be held next December. [Sentence as received]

He added that the issues the committee are discussing to prepare for the agreement deal with the member states production quotas in the light of the cooperation with non-OPEC oil producers.

Shaykh 'Ali did not elaborate whether the OPEC ministers intend to change the current OPEC production ceiling of 16.6 million barrels a day during their forthcoming conference, but he said that this ceiling may remain or could be changed from its current level.

On Kuwait's adherence to its quota of production, the oil minister said Kuwait has been on top of those countries which offer sacrifices for the unity of OPEC and has been and is still calling for abidance by member states to their quotas.

On the proposal for setting up a non-OPEC committee to supervise how far the member states are committed by their quotas of production, Shaykh 'Ali said "We should not forget that the idea of appointing such a committee has been a Kuwaiti idea."

He added that "It is regrettable that only few member states have abided by this idea."

He declared that Kuwait welcomes any measure for following up and monitoring the production accurately on condition that all member states are included without exception.

Committee Leaves Kuwait

LD071726 Kuwait KUNA in English 1341 GMT 7 Oct 87

[Text] Kuwait, Oct 7 (KUNA)—A three-man OPEC committee assigned to monitor oil production of the 13 member states of the organization left here Wednesday for Abu Dhabi in the course of a Gulf tour.

The Nigerian oil minister and current OPEC President Al-Haj Rilwanu Lukman, and Indonesian Oil Minister Dr Subroto and Venezuelan Energy and Mines Minister Hernandez Grisanti were seen off by Oil Minister Shaykh 'Ali al-Khalifa al-Adbi.

Lukman told reporters upon his departure that the ministerial committee has won a high-level support from His Highness the Amir of Kuwait Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad that Kuwait will adopt during the next OPEC ministerial meeting to be held next December.

He added the current tour, that includes Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, the UAE, Qatar, Iraq and Iran, does not aim at asking those countries to cut down their production levels.

He explained that the tour, which will be followed by visits to other members states of OPEC, target asking support to the agreement that the forthcoming ministerial council could reach next December and exploring the possibilities of solving some of the problems that could surface at that meeting.

The Nigerian minister said one of most important problems that is expected to face the forthcoming OPEC conference is how to convince Iraq to abide by the latest agreement of OPEC or any future agreement on production quotas.

He added that "We have to find a way for solving this problem at the next ministerial conference."

Iraq refused to abide by its production quota of 1.466 million barrel a day and demanded an equal quota to that of Iran which was set at 2.3 million barrel a day.

Lukman said the second problem is what the OPEC conference will decide on the official price of 18 dollar a barrel, whether it should be raised or lowered.

Lukman also said that the OPEC will reserve the right to study at the next December meeting the level of official price of oil for next year.

As for the third problem, Lukman said, it is related to the production ceiling for next year which should be collectively adhered to.

He explained saying the OPEC ministers current concern "is to preserve the stability of the official oil prices and the relationship between this and the importance of respecting the production quotas that will be agreed upon."

The Nigerian oil minister predicted that international demand on oil will increase next winter and said the industrial countries have consumed big quantities of their oil stockpiles since the beginning of this year despite the increase in oil production by the OPEC above the official ceiling.

He further said that the current international oil stockpile is not as huge as some people are trying to demonstrate.

On the idea of appointing supervisers to monitor the abidance by production quotas by the member states, Lukman said "What is important is the acceptance of all member states, including Iran and Iraq, of this idea and after that we can discuss how to implement it."

He concluded saying "The question is how to reach a method acceptable to all member states to monitor how far they are committed by the set quotas and at the same time this [word indistinct] should maintain its credibility among non-OPEC producers."

Egypt

Arab Leaders Congratulate Mubarak on Reelection

Saddam Husayn, Al-Jumayyil

NC071202 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 7 Oct 87

[Text] Iraqi President Saddam Husayn telephoned President Mubarak today and congratulated him on the Egyptian people's unanimity on his reelection for a second term of office. He assured President Mubarak about the situation along the Iraqi front. During the conversation, the two presidents also discussed a number of topics of concern to both countries.

Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil also telephoned President Mubarak. During their talk, the Lebanese President congratulated Mubarak on the confidence which the Egyptian people have in him and on his reelection to a second term.

Sultan Qabus, Kuwaiti Premier

NC071423 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1350 GMT 7 Oct 87

[Text] Cairo, 7 Oct (MENA)—President Muhammad Husni Mubarak has received a congratulatory cable from Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id of Oman on the anniversary of the 6 October victory.

The president received a similar cable from Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah al-Salim al-Sabah, Kuwaiti heir apparent and prime minister.

Lebanon's Dany Sham'un Confers With Ghali

NC071537 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1435 GMT 7 Oct 87

[Text] Cairo 7 Oct (MENA)—Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, met today with Lebanese National Liberal Party leader Dany Sham'un, who is currently visiting Cairo. The two officials made a comprehensive review of the developments in Lebanon, and Dr Ghali referred to Egypt's firm and principled stance in support of Lebanese legitimacy; the need for national reconciliation among ali Lebanese sects; the preservation of Lebanese unity, security, and stability; and the call for the withdrawal of all foreign forces from Lebanon.

Leaves for Home 8 Oct

NC080920 Cairo MENA in English 0903 GMT 8 Oct 87

[Text] Cairo, Oct 8 (MENA)—Leader of the Lebanese National Liberal Party Dany Sham'un left here this morning for home, after a few days' visit to Egypt.

Sham'un conferred with State Minister for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali on the latest Lebanese developments.

Ghali Examines Ties With USSR, Peace Process

JN071106 Cairo AL-MUSAWWAR in Arabic 2 Oct 87 pp 25-30

[Interview with Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, by Sana' al-Sa'id—date, place not given]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] [Al-Sa'id] In your opinion, what is the alternative to holding an international conference to settle the Middle East crisis in light of the conciliatory attitude the United States adopts toward Israel. It is an attitude which supports talk on autonomy rule for the Palestinians despite the fact that such talk has not produced any results in the past?

Butrus Ghali: I do not think it is the right time to think about an alternative to the international conference because efforts have not yet reached a dead end. On the contrary, the recent efforts regarding the Middle East crisis contribute positively to the call for holding an international conference as the most effective means to settle the Middle East crisis and the Arab-Israeli conflict. In fact, an important factor is the increased international support for this conference by the West European states, the USSR and the socialist bloc states, and African and Latin American states. Egypt is currently exploiting these positive signs in the interest of reactivating the peace efforts.

It is contacting all parties concerned with the aim of exerting moral and political pressure on the United States and Israel to achieve progress in the peace process, particularly at this stage which precedes the U.S. presidential elections, and the next stage in general. However, the autonomy talks have failed and are no longer useful. In fact, it is a stage that has passed. With regard to foreign policy it is wrong to look back or to search for a means that has been exchausted.

[Al-Sa'id] Where have the efforts to form a Jordanian-Palestinian-Egyptian joint delegation regarding a Palestinan-U.S. dialogue reached?

Butrus Ghali: Egyptian diplomacy is persistently continuing its contacts to restore coordination between Jordan and the PLO, the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. In fact, we consider this the cornerstone of the Arab stand which helps refute the Israeli claims that there is no clear Arab formula to deal with. Through these contacts, Egypt is also trying to overcome the obstacles to holding an international conference, including the form of representation of the parties concerned in the conference. We hope these efforts will succeed and produce results in the next stage.

I can say that the Egyptian stand does not lack optimism, especially since the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement signed on 11 February 1985 will continue to be a useful formula from which we can benefit in the future under objective and appropriate circumstances. [Passage omitted]

[Al-Sa'id] Following the hostile escalation of fighting in the Gulf, I wonder what is required from the international community regarding this war?

Butrus Ghali: The issuance of UN Security Council Resolution 598 and the UN secretary general's visits to Iraq and Iran prove that the international community is begining to remove the carelessness which prevailed for some time. It is also a sign of the beginning of a move which we hope will gain the support of all states because without this support, a peaceful settlement of this bloody conflict cannot be achieved.

[Al-Sa'id] With regard to threats in the Red Sea, is it possible to draw up a formula for coordination between the Arab Republic of Egypt and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in an attempt to strengthen the security of the two states to confront any threats?

Butrus Ghali: Egypt always welcomes any security coordination with any Arab country. Egypt firmly believes that Egyptian national security is an indivisible part of Arab national security. The remarks by all Egyptian officials, including President Muhammad Husni Mubarak, to the effect that Gulf security is the focus of Egypt's attention and that Egypt views Gulf security as an extension of its own national security, confirms Egypt's willingness to look for any formula acceptable to the Gulf states to consolidate Gulf security in the face of threats.

It is no longer a secret that among the most important reasons for the failure and inability of an Arab-Muslim will rising to the serious events facing the Arab and Muslim world in recent times is the terrible deterioration in Arab stands represented by the lack of concord among brothers, the threatened security in several countries, the wealth that is being wasted for the sake of others, and the chivalry that is lacking for no comprehensible reason.

[Al-Sa'id] How do you assess Egyptian-Soviet relations in the present stage? Soviet officials always say they look forward to improving and developing the Soviet Union's relations with Egypt. Why then are there reservations on your part in your relations with the Soviets?

Butrus Ghali: There are no reservations in our relations with the Soviets. Conditions are definitely favorable now to overcome the ebb in Egyptian-Soviet relations in the past years. There is now a common desire by the two sides to make up for the period during which there was coolness and deterioration in relations between the two countries.

Perhaps the reason is basically due to Egypt's anxiousness to underline its nonaligned policy and its readiness to cooperate with all world countries for the common good. I want to emphasize that mutual respect and the deep understanding of the principles that govern international relations have always been the appropriate ground for the renewed meeting between the Egyptian and Soviet peoples, and between Cairo and Moscow.

Perhaps the latest agreement that drew up a solution to the problem of military debts that was satisfactory to both sides heralds the beginning of the development of trade, economic, and cultural relations and joint cooperation between the two countries in replacing and modernizing the industrial, technological, and agricultural infrastructure of the Egyptian economy.

Undoubtedly Egypt welcomes the Soviet Union's positive response to Egypt's needs and to the interest of the two sides in economic cooperation and in expanding bilateral trade. The agreement, which is expected to be signed by the two sides soon, will lay out the general framework of the positive development in such economic cooperation and trade, as well as in political cooperation, dialogue among diplomats within a UN framework, and world issues that pose a threat to international peace and security.

[Al-Sa'id] What about the possibility of pursuing a more neutral and balanced policy toward both Sudan and Ethiopia?

Butrus Ghali: Egypt's foreign policy is committed to one of the linchpins of its diplomacy, namely nonalignment. Consequently, Egypt seeks to achieve a balance in its relations with countries of the East and the West. There is a basic rule that governs Egypt's Arab and African relations, namely that Egypt and its Arab and African sisters share a common destiny, future, and affiliation.

Egypt's relations with both Sudan and Ethiopia are governed by something greater, profounder, and more sacred than all that, namely the artery of life—the waters of the Nile—the bond of civilization and history, and the present and future.

Egypt believes it is more concerned and more preoccupied than anyone else with the need to reconcile Sudan and Ethiopia. In all its contacts with both sides, Egypt expresses its readiness to mediate between them. Egypt realizes the importance of stability along the Sudanese-Ethiopian border, which is crucial to the two neighboring countries that share a 2,000-km border along which tribes are intermingled and their intrerests interlinked.

Egypt cannot allow its special and unique relations with Sudan to come at the expense of its relations with Ethiopia. Egypt believes it has a mission to strengthen its relations with Ethiopia so that it will be able—and so that such relations can be a credit to Egypt—to play a positive role in reconciling Sudan and Ethiopia and resolving the conflict between them in the interests of both.

[Al-Sa'id] With regard to the Libyan-Chadian crisis, and in light of the UN General Assembly resolution condemning Libyan intervention in Chad, what do you think of the chances of a real settlement of the conflict, particularly as Al-Qadhdhafi in his recent statements has left no doubt that he will hold on to Aozou as Libyan territory?

Butrus Ghali: The UN General Assembly resolution gives rise to the hope that it may intervene and play a role in resolving the conflict. Egypt believes in the need to settle disputes by peaceful means. We hope that Libya will be reasonable and accept a referral of the issue to arbitration, to the International Court of Justice, or to a commission of elders who can arrive at a scholarly and objective verdict on the international border between Libya and Chad.

There are precedents, such as the dispute 2 years ago between Burkina Faso and Mali. The two countries agreed to refer the issue to the International Court of Justice. The court issued its verdict, which was implemented by both sides, and the dispute was resolved peacefully. There was also a dispute over the maritime broder between Libya and Malta, and both agreed to refer the issue to the International Court of Justice. Why then today does Libya not accept arbitration with Chad, particularly since it is confident that the Aozou strip is an indivisible part of Libya? [Passage omitted]

Libya

Jallud Scores U.S. in Anniversary Speech

LD072023 Tripoli Television Service in Arabic 1733 GMT 7 Oct 87

[Speech by Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Ahmad Jallud marking the 17th anniversary of the "expulsion of remnants of Italian fascists from Libya;" place not given—live]

[Excerpts] Brothers, today we celebrate the anniversary of a historic action, an action of vengeance which satisfied our fathers and grandfathers. The poet was correct when he said that massacres and the gallows will inspire a generation and will create within it a desire for revolution and vengeance. In actual fact, the struggle of our fathers and grandfathers in September 1969 was the food for the Movement of Free Officers and 7 October became Vengeance Day.

Vengeance Day has great meaning for us. It means that an aggressor cannot go unpunished. It means that the people will inevitably avenge their dignity. Vengeance Day is an important and historic day along the path of reasserting political, economic, and cultural freedom.

We know that Tripoli and its suburbs—from Misratah to Al-Sawiyah to Al-Aziziyah—all these places used to be totally occupied by the Italian community. In actual fact, the Italian community used to be more dangerous than the U.S. and British bases. In addition to its black history regarding the Libyan Arab people, the Italian community was like a woodworm infiltrating deep into the Libyan people.

We know that the Italian community used to dominate the economy—industry, handicrafts, trade, banks, and agriculture. All the important places in Tripoli and all houses, villas, and apartments on Al-Mukhtar and Muhammad al-Mugaryif Streets used to belong to this community. Libyans used to live in Sidi Mansur, Akkara, and other areas in shacks. Libyans should not forget this fact.

Libyans managed through revolution alone to avenge themselves and Tripoli—from Misratah to Al-Zawiyah to Al-Aziziyah to Tarhuna, all these areas were totally occupied but were liberated. In these areas—from Misratah to Al-Zawiyah—Libyans were foreigners in their own land. They were servants on Italian farms. They were servants in Italian shops. They were servants in Italian coffee shops and bars. They were servants in Italian banks. Libyans used to live in shacks while the Italians used to live in villas and apartments on Al-Mukhtar and 1 September and Muhammad al-Muqaryif Streets, as well as Garden City, the Ben Ashur Street, etc.

By all such meanings, Vengeance Day is real vengeance. When we avenged ourselves, the targets were not individual Italian men or women; we wanted to punish Italian politics; we wanted to punish the Italian invasion. We wanted to punish a colonialist decision to cross the Mediterranean and attack a small and poor people living peacefully. We wanted to punish colonialist politics. The Libyan people laid down a legal basis: An aggressor should be punished; it is the right of every people to avenge themselves so that any colonialist attempt will be deterred. Had the revolution achieved this goal alone, I believe, this would have been a historic action.

I would like to say that the Italian community used to decide the policy of the Libyan people, through the lackey regime and the party that formed the cabinet, throughout the era of pseudo-independence until the Great 1 September Revolution. [Applause] The Italian community, by way of its lackeys—Mahmud al-Muntasir and others—used to decide policy. The Cabinet's make up used to be decided in the houses and at the Italians' houses; they used to form the Cabinet there. Regrettably, this used to take place under a policy of disregarding the Libyan people, who were independent and free.

If we celebrate the eviction of U.S. and British bases, we should also rightly celebrate the expulsion of the Italian settler community, which once expressed a black past for Libyans and constituted a real danger both to the Libyan people's future as well as their past. Its expulsion was a historic operation—a very important operation, more important than the eviction of the U.S. and British bases.

This is because the Italian community represented colonialism; it threatened our cultural heritage and used to control the economy—industry, agriculture, handicrafts, shops, coffee shops, and banks; all economic establishments from Misratah to Al-Zawiyah to [placename indistinct] used to be under this community's control. [Crowd shouts: Vengeance Day is 7 October! We live free and die free!]

I would like to say to the Italian people and to the Italian democratic parties that opposed—some of them opposed—the Italian invasion of Libya, that they should prove—the Italian people, parties, and political forces—their innocence of the crime committed against the Libyan people by compensating the Libyan people and by providing all documents and lists containing the names of Libyans who disappeared during that black period. This is necessary to eliminate any past complexes so that the Libyan people and this generation of Libyans can cooperate with this generation of Italians to get rid of past complexes.

We cannot get rid of past complexes with mere words. The Italian Government and people should condemn those responsible for that invasion; they should wash their hands of responsibility for that invasion, that barbaric action against this peaceful people. They should compensate the Libyan people and cooperate with them in ascertaining all facts regarding the Libyans who disappeared. They should remove all mines from the Libyan desert, mines that daily bring death and destruction to children, women, and the elderly.

But, regrettably, I must say that until now, there has been no progress on the path to a solution and a decision regarding compensation. We do not want to exploit the blood of our martyrs, but this issue has other values. Regrettably, the issue has worsened since Italy is now under U.S. pressure and may also be under European or French pressure. They are seizing Libyan equipment that was sent to Italy for repairs and maintenance in a Mafia-type operation that has no legal or ethical basis. This is submission on Italy's part to U.S. and French pressure and does not indicate good intentions. Relations are established between peoples, and the Libyan people, at their people's congresses, decided to seek compensation. This alone can open real relations of friendship and cooperation with Italy. [Passage omitted reviewing Libyan heroism in the face of 'barbaric colonialists']

Brothers, our Arab nation is facing a U.S. invasion and our sacred pan-Arab cause, Palestine, is facing a serious attempt to liquidate and destroy it. This is because the strong people, the difficult obstacle facing the U.S. infiltration of the Arab homeland and the difficult obstacle facing the liquidation of the Palestinian cause, is the 1 September Revolution, the Libyan people.

Brothers, we must understand why they are attacking us from the sea, why they are attacking us from the south. They are attacking us because we are the only difficult obstacle. Because the Libyan people is the strong, loud voice that does not fear the United States, the voice that hisses at the United States. We have to understand why are we exposed to multifaceted aggression, military, economic, political, propaganda, terrorist, and psychological aggression due to the Libyan people's leading and vanguard role, due to the great 1 September Revolution.

The Libyan people now control their destiny and preach the era of the masses, Arab unity, the liberation of Palestine, and the establishment of a popular front that will combat the United States. Because of this leading and vanguard role on the part of the 1 September Revolution and the Libyan people, the United States attempts to commit aggression against the Libyan people.

Brothers, you have to understand that Aozou is not the issue. The Americans do not care about Aozou. The French do not care about Aozou. NATO does not care about Aozou. The forces of reaction do not care about Aozou. This issue was expressed by Reagan. When he failed in the north, he found a cheap way to fight Al-Qadhdahfi in the south. Instead of sending aircraft to attack [word indistinct] and be exposed to risks that might endanger the White House, the Black House, they pay money and weapons [word indistinct].

Ndjamena is not a state or a people or anything; the Chadian people have nothing to do with this. The Americans and French have established an operations room via satellite, and they are commanding the battle. They want to attack this progressive position because their interests in Africa are threatened by the Libyan people's instigation.

Today the Libyan people, the Libyan people fought in Guinea, in Cape Verde, in Mozambique, in Uganda, in Chad, in Sudan, in Namibia, and in Zimbabwe. It is the Libyan people more than any other who armed and trained [Zimbabwe Prime Minister Robert] Mugabe's party, which led the liberation against the apartheid regime in the then Rhodesia, which is now [sentence incomplete as heard].

We have armed and trained thousands. You remember the brother colonel's visit to West Africa [words indistinct] masses came out to see Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi; they came out in the millions. The Western mass media were irritated; Reagan was mad, and Mitterrand also. They saw this as a dangerous situation jeopardizing their interests in Africa; they could also see the leading role of the Great 1 September Revolution as well as that of the Libyan people. They tried to pressure Africa and convince it that the visit represented Libyan colonialism.

We support freedom; we can never accept being labeled a colonial power. We are only 3.5 million people in a land of 1 million sq km; we do not need any more land or anything else. We reject any depiction of us as colonialists; we are freedom-loving people and we support freedom with words, arms, money, and blood.

[Words indistinct] brother, the international conference that is an effort to attain an Arab agreement to liquidate the Palestinian cause. Who has not yet accepted the idea of convening such an international conference? Have you heard on the radio that anyone else has refused such a conference except for Libya? Even the PLO has not refused it. The Palestinians, who are directly concerned with the cause—if we accept the argument that it is merely a national cause and not as it is in fact a pan-Arab cause—have not rejected the international conference. The Libyan Arab people are the only ones to oppose this international conference because they oppose the pan-Arab cause's liquidation, the acceptance of racist Israelis in Palestine, as well as handing over or giving up Palestine.

Brothers, the United States wants to take over the world, primarly the Arab world, and the only persons who have said no to it are Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi and the Libyan people. [Applause] We should know by now why they are fighting us, however, there are still some people with no national feeling or morals who are joining the United States.

I say here—unafraid and with nothing to gain—that the raids on Tripoli and Banghazi—the U.S. aggression—were merely a cover-up; the main target was Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi. They struck his office, the room where his office was, the house, and the tent. I said so to Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi and I went to visit the Al-Jamahir Museum to sign a statement saying that the aggression against Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi's person was a medal on Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi's chest and an insult to all Libyans, male and female, including myself. [Words indistinct] they thought that by physically liquidating Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi the way would then be wide open for them to subjugate the Libyan people and to link them yet again with reaction and colonialism. This was an insult; they believed that there were no real men here. If it had not been for Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, we all would have become reactionaries. Why else would they have wanted to kill him? Therefore, brothers, we must realize it is not a question of Aozou or anything else. Habre is a tool of confrontation. The decision does not lie in the hands of Habre; the decision lies in France—in the Elysee—and in the White or rather the Black House. U.S. and French officers manage the operations room in Ndjamena. This must be clear and we must be determined to put an end to this encroachment against the Libyan people, with determination to defend the land. [Applause]

If we are not determined to defend the land and defeat the enemies of the Arab nation and the Libyan people, we would then not merit any kinship with ancestors, fathers, and the mujahidin. History and the mujahidin would then have nothing to do with us.

Brothers, we possess the capabilities to defeat them. I say that we must not accept a border war if the United States and France decide to commit aggression against our borders and if Habre accepts this role, then we must not accept a border war. We must then go and destroy the source of aggression. We can destroy the source of aggression, and we are preparing for the destruction of the source of aggression. [Applause]

Brothers, you must know the reasons for the aggression against the Libyan people, for the aggression against the revolution, for the immoral attempt to liquidate Brother Mu'ammar personally. It is because of what the 1 September Revolution represents at the pan-Arab and international levels. They do not want anyone to stand up to them.

They are searching among the Libyan people for someone to raise the U.S. flag, someone who would commit a cowardly act from any position whether he be a student, a teacher, a soldier, a policeman, or a peasant. The battle is an integral one. Otherwise, treason would become a point of view, like what happened in Egypt: Sadat committed treason, saying that treason was a point of view. Negligence is treason, and we do not allow treason be a point of view. At least everyone should decide afterwards [as heard].

Brothers, we are required to surrender; otherwise we will be liquidated, and we are saying: We shall not surrender and they will not be able to liquidate us. [Applause] Brothers, this is no time for applause or [word indistinct]. The present requires sweat and blood; the present requires production. We have applauded for 18 years, and now applause should turn into blood, sweat, and hard work from any standpoint.

The battle is not against Libya as such; it is against the Arab nation, since Libya is the insurmountable obstacle in the path of the Palestinian question's liquidation and in the path of the new U.S. colonialism in the Arab homeland, as an alternative to European colonialism. Therefore, they are not fighting you because you are Libyans. They are fighting you because you are a nation, efficient soldiers in your nation, and an instigator and a leader, due to the Great 1 September Revolution.

O brothers, your great nation rewards you. All the Arabs have (?come to) fight for Libya, and have stated—even Walid Junblatt, the Syrians, the Libyans, the Algerians, and the Yemenis have stated: As far as we are concerned, we will not accept a setback or harm to the revolution. Why is this, O brothers? Because they are aware, and they said, that this attack is an attack against the Arab nation. However, the rock and the insurmountable obstacle is Libya, and thus, if the revolution [word

indistinct] falls, the road will be dark. They said that if it is possible to postpone their internal and external battles, they would then come to fight for us. This is an honor for the Libyan people.

Naturally, the leadership has a price. The leadership has a price and the revolution's role [words indistinct] even Gambia had a greater role than ours. Indeed, O brothers, when I started oil negotiations I did not think that Abu Dhabi's return from a barrel was more than Libya's.

Libya effectively was worth nothing. However, with the revolution, the Libyan people have become masters of their own will and I stress [word indistinct] that this leading position has created dangers for you and has led to aggression against you. However, if the price of that leading role is, for example, us wanting to live like worms, the generation must be jealous and say it is a shame that if our fathers and grandfathers had nothing, had no weapons or knives [words indistinct]. Is it possible that this generation has accepted going down in history as accomplishing less than their grandfathers? You must be jealous of your generation and have self-respect; jealousy is required. Someone who is jealous of his [word indistinct] of his generation, cannot accept this. The means we possess have were not there for our fathers and grandfathers.

I know that many revolutionary officials have seen the film *'Umar al-Mukhtar*. Mengistu has told me so and so have many others. He told me that the actor who played Gracianni did not represent Gracianni as he really was. Indeed, his real arrogance and tyranny were not expressed by the actor. Despite this, however, Gracianni was defeated; Italy was defeated; and the huge armies were defeated. Why? Because there was faith, love of sacrifice, and a race to the barracks. [Passage omitted]

Dear brothers, we must learn from Vengeance Day, this great day, this historic day which satisfied the thirst of many for revenge. It should be an occasion for the renewal of the pledge, to swear with determination that we will never bow our heads but are instead determined to resist. If we insist on resistance, we will certainly triumph. [Passage omitted] We must make this day an occasion to affirm our determination to continue strengthening the people's committee—strengthening the people's authority and consolidating the people's authority—to continue respecting the desire of the masses and the [word indistinct] the will of the masses, to continue recovering the power of the masses in the revolution and in building the Jamahiriyah. This building should not be done in the name of the masses, it should be done by the masses.

The duty of revolutionaries is to instigate this and to guide them, making them aware of the facts and raising the degree of their consciousness, making them feel that they are responsible and leaving them to make decisions freely. From this day, we should be determined, based on a duty to the memory of martyrs, to escalate jamahiri action and to insist on the building and consolidation of the people's authority. The power of the masses in the streets, at colleges, at schools, at factories, and in clubs should be recovered. The masses must trust in themselves, in their authority, and meet in their people's committees to freely pass resolutions.

All the energies, the revolutionary and even the nationalist energies, all the able energies should become involved in action, in comprehensive mobilization, in real instigation and awakening for the sake of an effective presence. So all people, both men and women, should exercise their authority freely and correct the revolutionary movement since it is a jamahiri movement. The jamahiri regime is capable of correcting any deviations and any mistakes, and is capable of providing the revolutionary and the jamahiri action brilliant thrust. This is because there is no alternative to people's authority. But to build people's authority, we should make the masses feel they are truly free, without any falsification or humbug.

We must at the same time appeal to their minds, not to their emotions. We must make them sense the responsibility and not have them deal with people's authority with a governmental mentality. We must enable the masses to trust in themselves and free themselves from the remnants and from any pressures.

The coming task is to mass ideological and cultural capabilities to deepen jamahiri thought, to create a conviction among the revolutionaries in jamahiri thought, and to seek psychological methods and inlets for scientific application of jamahiri thought and of revolutionary slogans. We must, dear brothers, design and present an example—a bad example cannot at all be a model. The model should be an excellent example. The failed student cannot be a model. The cowardly soldier cannot be a model. The lazy and indifferent people's official cannot be a model. The mother who is not interested in her sons, who does not attend lectures on childrearing cannot be a model.

We cannot present a poor application and deceive the Arab, African, Islamic, and international masses by calling it an example. It is inevitable that we present an example that attracts the masses. After this, the masses will be able to wage battles internally and externally. Brothers, the best prayers we can offer in seeking mercy for our martyrs' souls is to avenge them. But today we should pray for our martyrs' souls. We should follow in their footsteps. We should regard their struggle as our practice and tradition. We should be guided by their struggle.

Brothers, a bitter fact exists. The monarchical regime plotted against the jihad of the Libyan people. The independence that Idris al-Sanusi brought on 9 August by his alliance with the British was a conspiracy hatched on the sands of Alexandria. The Allies conspired as if we did not exist.

Then there was the revolution. The revolution came to write a chapter in this glorious history. It came to rewrite history. But regrettably, every idea became shallow—we became tribes competing against each other, without reaping any benefit from the jihad; we did not deepen the jihad. This idea was Brother Mu'ammar's initiative. He was interested in it and we found another conspiracy. The monarchical regime conspired in its own way, but we conspired by our ignorance, by our tribalism and tribal loyalty, and by our simplemindedness. The attempt was aborted. I call for another attempt, because this is a vast credit to us. The jihad of the Libyan people is a library that contains books written in blood for the benefit of all those who seek freedom.

Naturally, I respect the 1 million martyred in the Algerian revolution, the Vietnamese revolution, and all popular revolutions. Freedom triumphed in the Algerian and Vietnamese revolutions.

But when the Libyan people led an armed popular revolution, freedom did not triumph. We waged an armed popular revolution against the Italians at a difficult time and freedom did not triumph. But Nicaragua [as heard] is not isolated; it is supported by Libya, Korea, and the Soviet Union. We should be proud of our jihad, but we should not use it as means for boasting; we should not say the jihad is a credit to this or that tribe and to this or that individual. The jihad is a credit to all Libyan people. [Applause]

Brothers, Vengeance Day is greater than the words we use to analyze it or discuss it. It is a great deed by all standards—national, revolutionary, ethical, and historical. It is a great deed. With this deed we liberated Libya, from Misratah to (Al-Sawiyah), to Tarhunah, Al-'Azizi-yah, and (Al-Nasiriyah); we liberated all Libya. [Passage omitted on Libya before it was colonized]

Today the revolution is in danger. All those who benefited from that day, Vengeance Day, should join the revolutionary action. [applause] The revolution is not a milk cow for every one to benefit from, to take farms or houses from and then say goodbye. This wealth belongs to Libya, but without the revolution we would not have this wealth. I call on this day for all those who benefited by obtaining a house, a farm, a shop, a plant, or anything else— out of loyalty to the martyrs—to participate in the revolutionary action and receive weapons training.

I am confident that our enemies will not able to defeat the revolution. I am confident they will not succeed in overthrowing the revolutionary regime. [Passage omitted on the greatness of this day, paying tribute to the martyrs, to those who staged the revolution, and to the Libyan people] Forward, the revolutionary struggle continues!

Al-Qadhdhafi Receives USSR's Mikhail Sytenko

LD072056 Tripoli Television Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 7 Oct 87

[Text] The brother leader of the revolution has received Mikhail Sytenko, envoy of the Soviet leadership. The meeting was attended by the USSR ambassador to the Great Jamahiriyah.

Mauritania

President Receives Burkinabe, PLO Envoys

LD080912 Nouakchott Domestic Service in Arabic 2030 GMT 7 Oct 87

[Text] The chairman of the CMSN and head of state has received Mr Mamadou Toure, Burkinabe minister of commerce and people's supply and special envoy of President Thomas Sankara. Mr Toure is carrying a special message from the president which concerns bilateral relations and ways to consolidate them.

The head of state also received Mr Fu'ad al-Shubaki, an official of the PLO Financial Department and special envoy of PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat. Al-Shubaki is carrying a special message which concerns the difficult situation of Palestinian camps in some Middle Eastern countries.

The Palestinian envoy also briefed the head of state on developments concerning an international conference on peace in the Middle East.

Sudan

Al-Mahdi Receives Message From SPLA's Garang

JN051845 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1450 GMT 5 Oct 87

[Text] Khartoum, 5 Oct (WAKH)—A press statement published here today said Sudanese Prime Minister Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi received a message today from dissident Colonel John Garang, commander of the SPLA. The statement also said that former Nigerian President Obasanjo handed the message to Al-Mahdi.

According to the official statement, the message said the SPLM is ready to negotiate with the Sudanese Government to reach a peaceful settlement of the southern Sudanese problem. In his message, Garang said the SPLA is fully convinced that all political parties in Sudan wish to attain a speedy solution to the ongoing conflict in southern Sudan. He also proposed, in his message, the creation of a national committee to handle southern Sudanese issues, provided his movement is consulted.

Al-Mahdi, Iranian Envoy Discuss Cooperation

LD071329 Khartoum SUNA in English 1012 GMT 7 Oct 87

[Text] Khartoum Oct 7 (SUNA)—Premier Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi met here yesterday with the ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Iran to Khartoum the daily [word indistinct] published here today reported. The meeting discussed means of promoting bilateral relations in all fields besides the current developments in the region and the world, the paper added.

Minister Denies Anti-Chad Action Discussed

JN061149 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1055 GMT 6 Oct 87

[Text] Khartoum, 6 Oct (SUNA)—Ma'mun Sanadah, minister of culture and information and official government spokesman, has strongly denied the claims and allegations made by Chadian radio on 4 October and reported by international radio stations. According to the claims of Ndjamena radio, the visit to Sudan of Colonel Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir, member of the historic leadership of Libya's 1 September Revolution and minister of defense, [title as received] was linked to a hostile plan of action against Chad.

In a statement published today in *Al-Ayyam*, Sanadah says: Sudan reaffirms to its neighbors and all countries that one of the most important principles in Sudan's foreign policy is good-neighborliness. Sudan will never export instability or undermine the security of its neighbors because it fully recognizes that the security of its neighbors affects its own security. Consequently, Sudan is very eager to see Chad's security preserved and its stability safeguarded. Sudan will spare no effort to bring peace between Chad and Libya.

In his statement, Sanadah says that the Libyan official's visit only dealt with relations between Sudan and Libya and the interests of their two peoples; it had nothing to do with any hostile action against Chad.

Culture and Information Minister Sanadah adds: If Sudanese officials did discuss Libyan-Chadian relations with Col Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir and his delegation during their visit to Sudan, they undoubtedly did so to achieve peace between Libya and Chad.

Interior Minister Cited on 'Security Threats'

JN301140 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1025 GMT 30 Sep 87

[Text] Khartoum, 30 Sep (SUNA)—Minister of Interior Sayyid Ahmad al-Husayn has stated that Sudan is facing serious security threats. Some tribes and factions from western Sudan are joining the ranks of the warring Chadian elements and becoming vanguards for these warring elements. This is the most serious of the security threats.

In a statement published here in today's edition of the newspaper *Al-Jaridah*, the minister added that these threats are caused by the southern and eastern border wars, as well as the situation on the western border, arbitrary residence, migration to the capital, the possession of arms, and the Sudanese citizens' contacts with foreigners. The minister said that the security forces' abilities to confront these threats are very weak.

The minister said that the police force is now working at 40 percent of capacity and 400 million pounds are needed to rebuild it to meet current requirements.

Government Gives Police 312 Million Pounds

JN051041 Khartoum SUNA in English 0918 GMT 5 Oct 87

[Text] Khartoum, Oct.5 (SUNA)—The Council of Ministers has agreed to provide 312 million Sudanese pounds as an emergency support to the police institutions in the country and that 40 million pounds out of it has already received by police authorities, Police Director General Ibrahim Ahmad Abd al-Karim announce here today.

The daily paper *Al-Usbu'* published here today quoted Abd al-Karim as saying that Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Egypt, and Yugoslavia have provided supports to the police.

General Abd al-Karim will accompany Prime Minister Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi in his expected visit to Japan to discuss with the Japanese police authorities ways of supporting the police in the Sudan.

SPLA Radio Reports Military Operations

Army Kills 70 Civilians

EA071431 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 7 Oct 87

[Excerpt] Reports from Bahr al-Ghazal administrative area said the Sudanese soldiers shelled the other side of Wau town, which is occupied by the civilians under police protection, using heavy guns. According to the reports, 70 civilians and 10 policemen were killed. Many houses were burned down, including the houses of Brigadier General of Police Kongor Anok and that of Lieutenant Colonel of Police Ring Ring.

The correspondent says that civilians who try to leave the divided town of Wau are shot at by the Khartoum army. Many who try to leave at night are arrested and killed and that gunshots have become the music of the day in Wau. [Passage omitted]

SPLA To Free Priests

EA071433 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 7 Oct 87

[Text] The three priests who had been caught up in cross fire between the SPLA and Khartoum forces in the eastern bank of eastern Equatoria and taken to safety by the SPLA are to be set free. The SPLM/SPLA spokesman says that the parent church organizations of these priests can arrange for their release and evacuation through any neighboring country. He added that they can be released unconditionally without demanding any ransom.

Here are the names and particulars of the priests:

No 1: Father Salvador Ferrao, nationality Indian, address: Jesuit House c/o Province (Majimoguwa), India.

No 2: Father Joseph Pullicino, nationality Maltese, address: c/o Father (Robert Soler), Provincial Office, 27 (Marqich Sikluno) Street, Malta. Their address in Nairobi, Kenya, is 15 Loyola House, Jesuit Fathers, Provincial, Menelik Road, Box 21399 Nairobi.

No 3: Father (Ananiya Lado Deto), Archdiocese of Juba, PO Box 32, Juba, Liria Parish.

8 Government Soldiers Killed

EA032129 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 2 Oct 87

[Excerpts] Eight soldiers of Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi, including 1 officer with a rank of 1st lieutenant whose name is not immediately identified, have been killed and 15 others were wounded in 2 separate clashes with SPLA forces of Fashoda Battalion under the command of Major Oyway Deng Ajak on 16 and 17 September 1987 at (Jitang) and at Malakal Airport, respectively. The correspondent says that the two attacks by the SPLA forces, which were launched at broad daylight, also inflicted heavy damages on the enemy in military equipment. [Passage omitted]

Reports from southern Blue Nile said that the SPLA forces carried out continuous shelling and raids on Maban town from 17 to 28 September, 1987. The correspondent says that one enemy militiaman was killed and four huts were burned inside Maban. Meanwhile, shelling and raids are still going on. [Passage omitted]

Uwayl Garrison Attacked

EA031318 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 2 Oct 87

[Excerpt] Reports from northern Bahr al-Ghazal said that Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi's forces have gone on the rampage in Uwayl town, killing innocent citizens and looting their properties. Correspondent says that among the many civilians killed in Uwayl on 10 September 1987 were sub-chief Muhammad Ayub, (Angara Manyok Diw), and four others whose names were not identified. The correspondent says that the town of Uwayl has been closed to people leaving or entering by Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi's forces as from 16 September 1987.

Meanwhile, the correspondent says that as a retaliatory measure to provocation by Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi's forces, SPLA units of Kalashnikov Battalion, under the direct command of 1st Lieutenant Bol Bol Bol, raided Uwayl garrison town on 11 September 1987, killing three enemy soldiers and wounding four others.

According to our correspondent in the area, the SPLA forces also captured two police recruits who were sent to spy on the SPLA by Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi's soldiers in Uwayl. The names of the two police spies are given as (Moi Mou Yal) and Santino Garang. The correspondent says that the two have been handed over to the commander of SPLA forces in the area, Captain Mading Deng Kuol. [Passage omitted]

Tonji Raided

EA040538 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 3 Oct 87

[Excerpt] Thirty-one soldiers have been killed and 9 others were seriously injured in a battle inside Tonji town by SPLA forces of Shark Battalion under the direct command of Captain (Mading Duwor) and the overall command of Lieutenant Colonel Bona Bang Dhol on 7 September 1987. According to our correspondent in the area, the enemy also suffered widespread damage in materiel. [Passage omitted]

Kodok Garrison Attacked

EA071523 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 7 Oct 87

[Excerpt] Combined units of Shams and Khawr Fulus Battalions attacked Kodok enemy garrison on 1 October 1987. Correspondents say that five regular soldiers and six militiamen of Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi were killed and many others were wounded. Many houses, including that of the garrison commander, were destroyed. [Passage omitted]

Police Forces Routed

EA071627 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 7 Oct 87

[Excerpt] Two companies of Shams task force, commanded by Captain (Tiak Anok Deng), under the overall command of Major Dr Lam Akol Ajawin, alternate member of SPLM/SPLA Political Military High Command and zonal commander of northern Upper Nile, carried out a successful raid on the enemy garrison town of (Waddakuna) on 22 September 1987. A correspondent for Radio SPLA accompanying Shams task force

says that the entire police force fled the town after a brief exchange of fire. A number of houses were reported to have been gutted down in the town and in the army barracks.

The correspondent says that the enemy suffered heavy casualties in men and material. A large number of medicines were seized by the attacking SPLA forces who inspected the police barracks after the police fled. [Passage omitted]

19 Government Troops Killed

EA071628 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in Latuka 1100 GMT 7 Oct 87

[Text] SPLA units of the Volcano Battalion, under the direct command of Captain 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Hulw and the overall command of Major Yusuf Kuwah Makki, alternate member of the SPLM/SPLA Political Military High Command and zonal commander for southern Kordofan, clashed with Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi's forces and Al-Turabi's militiamen in the Hayban Mountains, killing 19 and capturing 5. The remnants fled toward Kaduqli. Al-Sadiq's forces and Al-Turabi's militiamen intended to burn the houses of those they claim to be SPLA sympathizers.

Tunisia

Execution of Muslim Fundamentalists Announced

LD081041 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 8 Oct 87

[Excerpt] The Ministry of Justice has made the following announcement:

At dawn today, Thursday, 8 October 1987, the defendants Mehrez Ben Bechir Ben Abdeslam Boudegga and Boulbaba Ben Boubakar Ben Seghier Dhiri were executed by hanging. They were sentenced to death by the State Security Court on 27 September 1987, the former for the crime of conspiracy to murder and the latter for the crime of attempted murder. Both were also convicted for staging an attack aimed at changing and toppling the regime and for being members of an illegal group. [Passage omitted]

Pro-Iranian Pakistani Group Warns Government

NC072040 Paris AFP in English 2027 GMT 7 Oct 87

[Text] Beirut, Oct 7 (AFP)—A group identifying itself as a pro-Iranian Pakistani Muslim fundamentalist organization has warned the Tunisian Government of "deadly consequences" if it does not revoke the death sentences imposed on seven Islamic militants.

The hitherto-unknown group, the Sons of the Nation of Hizballah of Pakistan, made the threat Tuesday in an Arabic language statement appearing here.

"If the illegitimate Tunisian regime does not respond to our demands, it will suffer deadly consequences and disastrous losses," the statement warned.

Seven Islamic fundamentalists were sentenced to death September 27 by a court in Tunis after having been convicted of plotting to establish an Islamic state in Tunisia with help from Iran. They were among 90 militants who stood trial on the charges.

In addition to those sentenced to death, 69 received prison terms and 14 were acquitted. Five of those receiving the death penalty were tried in absentia.

Two Lebanese-based Shi'ite fundamentalist groups, Islamic Jihad and Hizballah (Party of God), also issued threats against the Tunisian Government in the wake of the sentencing.

Inter-Gulf Affairs

Iranian Missiles Strike Japanese Tanker

JN080928 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 0900 GMT 8 Oct 87

[Text] This morning a Japanese tanker was struck by two Iranian missiles off the Saudi Arabian coast, 100 km east of the Saudi port of Al-Jubayl. The attack occurred at 0625 GMT today and resulted in a fire in the engine room.

Other sources claim the Japanese tanker was hit by only one Iranian missile.

3 Injured in Attack

NC080932 Paris AFP in English 0924 GMT 8 Oct 87

[Text] Manama, Oct 8 (AFP)—The Panama-registered vessel, *Tomoe-8*, was struck by an "unidentified missile" in the central sector of the Gulf Thursday, shipping sources in the region said, adding that the attack was probably carried out by Iranian gunboats.

Three crew aboard the *Tomoe-8*, which belongs to a Singapore-based firm, were hurt in the attack, the sources added quoting a message received by the ship's captain.

The insurers Lloyd's of London described the 5,267-ton *Tomoe-8* as a vessel which transports chemical products and said it was owned by a Japanese firm.

According to the message the attack took place some 50 kilometers (30 miles) from the Saudi Arabian port of Al-Jubayl. An "unidentified missile" struck the engines room of the tanker, causing a blaze on board, the sources said. They said that tug boats were rushed to assist the stricken vessel.

The type and nationality of the vessel was not immediately available, the sources said. The skipper said a U.S. Navy helicopter overflew his ship after the attack.

The skipper could not say whether the missile was fired from a plane or from a high-speed gunboat, the sources said, but they added that the attack could have been launched by Iranian high-speed gunboats manned by Revolutionary Guards.

The U.S. Defense Department has said that Iranian small boats were massing near Khark Island, Iran's main oil terminal in the northern Gulf, and that the ships were being closely watched by U.S. naval forces in the region.

Shipping sources said that the "danger" was not imminent.

Reports Saturday said that Iran sent waves of about four dozen small boats from Khark Island toward a Saudi Arabian offshore oil field but were turned back by Saudi jets. Riyadh denied that a confrontation took place.

Iraqi warplanes are equipped with Exocet missiles and Baghdad has used the weapons to attack commercial ships that deal with Iran, its foe in the seven-year Gulf war.

Iranian high-speed gunboats have been blamed in the past for attacks against ships in the Gulf.

Kuwait

Al-'Usaymi Reviews Stance on Gulf War

LD071834 Kuwait KUNA in English 1417 GMT 7 Oct 87

[Text] Kuwait, Oct 7 (KUNA)—A top government official said Wednesday Kuwait stands by its principled opposition to the continuation of the Iran-Iraq war and would do anything to prevent its spillover and escalation.

State minister for foreign affairs, Sa'ud Muhammad al-'Usaymi affirmed "Kuwait does not intend to enter into war against Iran or anyone else."

During a lecture which he delivered at the Faculty of Commerce, Econoomy and Political Science of Kuwait University, the minister denied that Kuwait is seeking war "and its evils."

He indicated that all Gulf Cooperation Council states understand the gravity of the situation in the Arabian Gulf region as a result of the Gulf war dragging on.

The official emphasized that "Kuwait has been pursuing a balanced foreign policy based on nonalignment principles that did not discriminate between one camp and another, or a state and another."

Minister al-'Usaymi noted "the internal Iranian situation" as a prime reason for the continuation of the conflict, which he pointed out had left hundreds of thousand casualties and billions of dollars in material damage.

He said the war, which last month entered into the eighth year, has weakened Iran and Iraq economically and exhausted their natural resources.

The lecture was attended by several distinguished university professors, including former education minister, Dr. Hassan al-Ibrahim and a large number of student body. "History," Al-'Usaymi said, "has shown that all wars had been started for strategic objectives which one party would seek at the expense of another, save the Iran-Iraq war, which is void of any strategic aim pursued by Iran."

He added that given Iran's rejection of all regional, Islamic and international mediations, the latest of which is U.N. Security Council Resolution 598, it seems that Tehran is prosecuting the war just for the sake of fighting.

In the last two years, he said, Iran and Iraq engaged in battles more ferocious and vicious than the fighting recorded during the Second World War.

Despite this, he said, there were times when the international media seemed to have forgotten a protracted war even existed in this vital part of the world.

In recent months, however, the Gulf conflict started capturing prominence in the world media more than before, "which mirrors international concern to bring about a peaceful settlement to this war," the state minister went on.

The Kuwaiti official pointed out that starting this year the international community stepped up efforts to resolve the conflict, and this reflected in U.N. Security Council Resolution 598 of last July, which ordered a ceasefire in prelude to peace talks.

He expressed belief that Resolution 598 "gave Iran more than Iraq, and fulfilled Iranian peace conditions including the setting up of an impartial committee to ascribe blame for the outbreak of the conflict," in September 1980.

Al-'Usaymi expressed belief that the importance of Resolution 598 stems, mainly, from the operational provisions calling for sanctions to be brought against the party refusing to comply.

The Kuwaiti official regretted Iranian attempts to expand the war to enmesh neutral Gulf states. And he blamed this on Iran's disastrous failure in scoring conclusive military victory over Iraq as promised by top Iranian leaders earlier this year.

Al-'Usaymi said the current Iranian regime is not, in many ways, different from its predecessor, which had arrogantly proclaimed itself the policemen of the Gulf region.

He noted that Kuwait had been chosen as a prime target of Iran's subversive activities in the region. Scores of Kuwaiti oil tankers were hit and Gulf waterways were mined under a variety of fictitious and unconvincing ploys.

The state minister stressed that Kuwaiti aid to Iraq is merely in fulfillment of Kuwait's generous policy of providing assistance to Arab and all other developing nations.

Iran, he said, has maintained a surprising silence with some other neighboring country providing military and economic aid to Iraq.

Al-'Usaymi recalled that since 1984 Kuwait tried in vain to dissuade Iran against persisting in attacks on Kuwait-bound shipping. The result of this failure, he went on, is the current presence of extraneous naval forces protecting freedom of navigation in the Gulf.

The Kuwaiti official charged that Iran has turned the Gulf region from an oasis of peace, security and stability to an international flashpoint fraught with dangers.

He said though Iran is decrying the current foreign naval buildup in the Arabian Gulf and blaming Kuwait, it should indeed shoulder the blame of the heightened tension which has reached unprecedented levels.

Al-'Usaymi stressed that Kuwait wishes Iran would return to its senses and allow an opportunity for peace to prevail throughout the region.

Following the lecture, the state minister took questions from the audience. Replying to a query, Al-'Usaymi recalled that many Arab countries have proposed severing diplomatic relations with Iran particularly after the subversive Iranian activities during the hajj season in Saudi Arabia late last July.

Al-'Usaymi pointed out that a forthcoming Arab summit, due to open in Amman November 8, would conduct an overall review of the Iran-Iraq war as well as a host of other important issues facing the Arab nation.

And he emphatically denied that the re-registering of some Kuwaiti oil tankers had undermined the Gulf state's national sovereignty. Ship re-registration, he noted, is a legitimate routine commercial operation.

Al-'Usaymi said Kuwait has been leasing 66 vessels including a number of oil tankers, for some time now, and added that other countries such as the U.S. and Iran also charter foreign ships to transport their exports.

The Kuwaiti official pointed out that responsibility for enforcing the operational elements of Resolution 598 lies with the big powers, "else they would lose their credibility with the rest of the world."

Replying to another question, the state minister said peace-loving Kuwait is seeking co-existence among all countries of the Gulf region.

He defended Kuwait's expulsion of five Iranian diplomats early September following a chill in bilateral relations touched off by the attack on the Kuwaiti Embassy in Tehran by Iranian mobs. Al-'Usaymi said the Iranian Government's failure in preventing the embassy assault was a clear violation of international law and diplomatic norms.

Kuwait, the minister stressed, merely exercised its natural right under international law, and did not reciprocate Iranian Government harsh treatment of Kuwaiti diplomats in Tehran.

Al-'Usaymi charged that Iran has been sabotaging diplomatic ties with Kuwait, and this among others should [be] blamed for the decision to send home the five Iranian diplomats.

PDRY

Al-'Attas Issues Law on 3d 5-Year Plan

EA071640 Aden ANA in Arabic 1350 GMT 7 Oct 87

[Text] Aden, 7 Oct (ANA)—Comrade Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas, member of the Political Bureau and chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council, today issued the law on the Third 5-Year Plan for economic and social development for 1986-90.

The first article of the law stipulates that the 5-year plan for economic and social development for 1986-90 basically relies on developing economic and social life in the PDRY between 1 January 1986 and 31 December 1990.

The second article calls upon the responsible authorities to take steps to implement the plan's objectives, indices, and projects in accordance with laws and regulations in force.

The remaining articles render the law effective from 1 January 1986 and stipulate that it be published in the official gazetteer.

YSP Secretariat Discusses Party Finances

LD071631 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 7 Oct 87

[Text] The YSP Central Committee Secretariat held its regular meeting this morning under the chairmanship of Brother Salim Salih Muhammad, assistant secretary general and Central Committee secretary.

A number of reports were discussed at the meeting including one on party organs' accounts and scientific and cultural institutions. Also discussed were a report on the results of the examination and scrutiny of party organs, the budget for the first half of 1987, and the payment of party subscriptions.

The Central Committee Secretariat expressed satisfaction at the development of the party's financial position, which ensures the steady reinforcement of party organizations, and at the good level of party discipline in paying subscriptions.

The Central Committee Secretariat urged party organizations and Central Committee establishments and utilities to pay attention to the creative application of the accounting system in a manner guaranteeing the financial process' improvement and development.

Gulf Operations, Air Strikes Continue

Communique No 2,863 Issued

JN071802 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 7 Oct 87

[Communique No 2,863 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 7 October]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our victorious Armed Forces continued their heroic combat activities in defense of our land, our sovereignty, and our citizens' freedom and dignity. The following is a roundup of these activities for last night and today.

1. At 1551 [1251 GMT] today, our Air Force carried out a successful raid on the Ilam radio station to silence the voice of falsehood. Our planes destroyed their targets at the station and then returned safely to base in God's care and protection.

2. Our units in the III Army Corps sector east of Al-Basrah dealt concentrated blows to enemy units opposite them and achieved the following:

a. Killing 11 rogues and injuring others.

b. Burning and destroying one tank, destroying four infantry positions and two posts, and blowing up two ammunition dumps.

3. One tank was damaged and one machinegun and one 106-mm vehicle-mounted cannon were destroyed and their occupants killed in the I Army Corps northern sector.

4. One vehicle and two posts were destroyed in the II Army Corps central sector.

5. In the VI Army Corps sector east of the Tigris, two enemy machineguns were destroyed. One shovel [preceding word in English] was burned and destroyed in the VII Army Corps sector.

6. Using long-range artillery, the despotic Khomeyniite clique shelled residential areas in Qal'at Dizah. The enemy shelling injured a number of civilians and damaged the town's grand mosque as well as a number of houses. Swift recovery to our wounded, God willing.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 7 October 1987

'Large Maritime Target' Hit

JN080821 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 0810 GMT 8 Oct 87

[Statement by a military spokesman dated 8 October]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Iraq will exercise its firm, legitimate right to sever the Iranian regime's oil lifeline whose financial revenue it employs to continue its war and aggression against our country and to disrupt regional security and stability.

At 0930 [0630 GMT] this morning our heroic Air Force launched a successful raid against a very large maritime target south of Khark Island. After delivering an accurate and effective blow, our aircraft returned safely and triumphantly to base in God's care and protection.

[Dated] 8 October 1987

Communique No 2,864 Issued

JN081009 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 0915 GMT 8 Oct 87

[Communique No 2,864 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 8 October 1987]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. God is great; praise be to God. From God we derive victory. God is great. Glory and pride to the Iraq of the two Al-Qadisiyahs. God is great. There is no victory in this glorious epic except for the noble Iraqi people, who are led on the march of freedom, progress, security, prosperity, pride, and glory by the grandson of the prophet's family, the nation's knight, and the reviver of its glory, the great hero Saddam Husayn.

O proud Iraqi people, O sons of our valiant Armed Forces, Iraq has thwarted abortive enemy attempts intended to be directed against our valiant forces and territory in the II Army Corps central sector.

The valiant Air Force hawks took to the air to champion the name of God, the nation's dignity, honor, and glory, and Iraq's pride and greatness. They gloriously raided enemy administrative areas, equipment preparation centers, the headquarters of aggression, and personnel concentrations behind the frontlines.

At 0930 [0630 GMT] this morning, 64 aircraft simultaneously took to the air. The strike formation consisted of exactly 50 aircraft while 14 aircraft were entrusted with support tasks. Our aircraft carried devastating fireballs that they dropped on the enemy's army to awaken their hollow aggressive heads and burn their squalid bodies to cleanse the life from them. After carrying out this preemptive and magnificent, daring attack, all the rapacious hawks and their aircraft returned safely and triumphantly to base in God's care and protection, carrying glad tidings to our beloved leader and their great people.

O our great leader Saddam Husayn, may God preserve you as a source of goodness for your nation and people. May God preserve you as a source of death and destruction to their enemies. The enemies will not harm any country that you guard and will not defeat men whom you lead. You and victory are eternally joined. You and pride are one, bestowed by God upon this militant good country. O men of our Air Force—commanders, hawks, officers, and other ranks—you should be proud of God's blessing and the affection of your leader. You record a new epic every day to preserve man's freedom. O God, grant us more victories.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 8 October 1987

Lloyds on Raid Damage

JN071440 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1324 GMT 7 Oct 87

[Text] London, 7 Oct (INA)—According to statistics published by British oil sources here today, Iran has lost 25-33 percent of its exporting stations' oil export capacity since the resumption of violent Iraqi air raids on Khark and Larak Islands in the Arabian Gulf last September.

Statistics published by the British *Lloyds List* disclose that the Iranian regime was obliged to rent eight additional oil tankers in an attempt to make up for the damage inflicted by the Iraqi raids, which reduced Iran's daily export average.

Lloyds List, which is issued by the British Lloyds Insurance Company, affirmed that tankers carrying out shuttle tours continued to be a major target for the Iraqi Air Force, especially during last September.

Citing its own sources in the Arab Gulf area, the publication said it is currently believed that Iran is exerting its utmost efforts to maintain its oil production. Recent statistics, however, confirm there has been a decline in the oil production average of the two pumping stations on Iran's Khark and Larak Islands.

Lloyds List added that the importance Iran attaches to damaged oil tankers in recent months became apparent in its attempt to tow these tankers to the port of Bushehr. In many cases Iran has towed damaged tankers, 12 hours after extinguishing shipboard fires, to an area 70 miles south of Khark Island.

The publication noted that Iraqi raids on the supertankers used for storing Iranian oil in Larak have raised speculation by Gulf oil circles, heralding a dangerous turning point in the nature of Iraqi pilots' tasks and their influence on the pumping station in Larak.

Peres Discusses Talks With Turkey's Halefoglu

NC061039 Istanbul MILLIYET in Turkish 1 Oct 87 p 4

["Exclusive" interview with Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres by *Milliyet* correspondent Iskender Songur following the meeting between Foreign Ministers Halefoglu and Peres in New York—date not given]

[Text] [Songur] What is your opinion on Turkish-Israeli relations?

[Peres] I have observed an improvement in our relations. I am happy about this progress.

[Songur] Will it be possible to hold such meetings in the future as well?

[Peres] We are high-ranking officials. In view of this, the talks we have held constitute a high-level contact between the two countries.

[Songur] Have the problems between Turkey and Israel been resolved?

[Peres] I can only say that I have discussed with Mr Halefoglu the question of improving relations between Turkey and Israel.

[Songur] Is Turkey close to Israel's view regarding the Middle East conference?

[Peres] I can say that I am happy to know that Turkey supports Israel's proposal.

[Songur] What have you discussed in connection with matters related to the economic field?

[Peres] Currently, we are exchanging views on starting a dialogue between the two countries on economic and political developments.

[Songur] Is the Jewish lobby in the United States inclined toward Turkey?

[Peres] This was discussed during the talks I held with Foreign Minister Halefoglu. We shall support Turkey. Turkey needs our support.

PRC's Li Luye Agrees To Hold Future Contacts

TA071059 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 7 Oct 87 p 3

["Exclusive" report from New York by Shlomo Shamir]

[Excerpt] Israel's UN Ambassador Binyamin Netanyahu met with his PRC counterpart Li Luye yesterday. This follows the understanding reached during last week's meeting between the foreign ministers of the two countries in New York, in which they agreed to hold future contacts between Israel and the PRC through their UN ambassadors.

Netanyahu raised practical proposals for establishing contacts between the two countries, and suggested that economic cooperation be discussed as a basis for close ties.

The Chinese ambassador was all smiles and did not reject the Israeli ambassador's proposals. The venue of the meeting between the two ambassadors is being kept secret, but it was reported that it was outside the two delegations' offices. Western sources at the United Nations told *Ha'aretz* that no substantial development in Israeli-PRC ties should be expected in the near future.

The PRC's UN ambassador is not free to take any steps without consulting his superiors and obtaining their approval. The meetings between the UN ambassadors of the two countries are a positive event in themselves, these sources said. But the Chinese side is subject to the most rigid directives, so that progress in the talks between the PRC and Israeli ambassadors will be very slow. [Passage omitted]

Shultz To 'Circumvent' Shamir-Peres 'Dispute'

TA071618 Tel Aviv HATZOFE in Hebrew 7 Oct 87 p 2

[Report by Jerusalem political correspondent]

[Text] U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz will try to circumvent the Shamir-Peres dispute over the peace conference and during his visit here will raise new ideas for peace negotiations that do not require the framework of an international conference.

One of the ideas mentioned is that of holding preliminary international talks that would be followed by direct talks.

The idea has not yet been reviewed by the other side, namely King Husayn. The king, as will be recalled, maintains that he needs "the framework of an international umbrella."

During the Washington meeting between Shultz and Knesset Member Moshe Arens, Shultz promised not to get involved in the Likud-Alignment conflict on this issue. Shultz will arrive armed with ideas that bypass the problem in Israel, to be reviewed by Jordan, Israel and Egypt.

It is presumed that he would not commit himself, at this stage, to any mediation mission so that Shultz could come to the Moscow summit meeting with no constraints, while still holding the key to Middle East negotiations.

During his visit here, Shultz will meet with a delegation of notables representing the Palestinians in "the territories."

Further on Shamir Meeting With Palestinians

TA071814 Jerusalem AL-NAHAR in Arabic
5 Oct 87 pp 1, 11

[Excerpts] At his request, Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir met yesterday evening in his office with Eng Tahsin 'Abd al-Ra'uf al-Faris; Faraj al-'Araj, Bayt Jala mayor ; Attorney Isam al-'Anani; Eng 'Uthman al-Hallaq; Dr Muhammad Zuhdi Ghazalah, director of Khaddur Agricultural Institute; and Yusuf Ghannam, mayor of Dayr Dibwan.

The Israeli prime minister, in the presence of the Israeli Defense Ministry's coordinator of occupied territories, began his talk by saying: I am meeting with you in your personal capacity and as West Bank residents to exchange views and ideas about current issues, and to consult with you on matters that concern you and the residents in the territories. It is very important for me to hear your views, and I believe it is important for you to hear my view on these topics.

Shamir then went on to talk about the international peace conference and the reasons for his oppositions to the convocation of this conference. He said: I am convinced that such a conference will not lead us to peace. The interests of the superpowers clash at such international conferences, and each one of the Security Council's five permanent member states will give priority to its own interests and influence in the region, without paying attention to the interests of the Arab Palestinian and Israeli peoples. Consequently, the conference will turn into a propaganda show. He added that as a result, the parties concerned will not have the opportunity to conduct effective and serious talks that will lead to the peace we desire. Moreover, all of us will be subjected to pressures by some of the parties attending the conference to impose thier views on us.

Shamir added: Although I am taking part in an open and unofficial meeting, I would like to hear what you think and for you to be directly informed of what we think. We want you to know that we desire peace with the Palestinians and the neighboring Arab states. We have mutual interests and we must reach understanding to live together. This is our destiny. [Passage omitted]

When those attending the meeting persisted in opposing Shamir regarding the need to convene an international conference for reaching a just and comprehensive peace, he said there is no objection to convening the conference after peace is attained through direct negotiations. The conference would then grant legitimacy to these results.

After those present rejected the idea of autonomy for the Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, Shamir explained that the autonomy the Likud proposes is but one stage in the peace process. Peace is not the starting point but the ultimate goal that can be reached only through negotiations.

On a question about the right to self-determination, Shamir said: This and other rights demanded by the Palestinians should be raised at the negotiating table. These negotiations will take a long time because they will be very difficult.

Regarding the principle of bargaining land for peace, and whether he would agree to give up the occupied territories in return for peace, Shamir answered that he could make any commitment at an unofficial meeting, but that he has no objections to raising this topic at the negotiating table. [passsage omitted]

Future Contacts Viewed

TA072018 Jerusalem AL-NAHAR in Arabic
6 Oct 87 pp 1, 11

[Editorial: "Palestinian-Israeli Contacts: Between 'Seriousness' and Media Consumption"]

[Text] The contacts held every once in a while between senior Israeli officials and some Palestinian notables, including the meeting held the day before yesterday between Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir and a group of these notables, have highlighted a number of facts and principles that should not only be a basis but the rule governing such contacts in the future.

The first of these facts is that discussions and meetings constitute channels of contact or dialogue between the two sides directly concerned with the Arab-Israeli conflict. It is no longer logical or acceptable to ignore these channels or boycott these contacts as long as their aim is to explore the outlines of a settlement, exchange views, and become acquainted with the intentions of both sides.

Obviously the Palestinian side views these contacts with greater realism because clearly the Palestinian side is the one suffering from the bitter occupation and hardship of its daily practices. We fear that the Israeli side's view of these contacts, whether by the Likud or the Alignment, is a desire to be depicted as eager to hold contacts with Palestinians, or for motives of rivalry to catch the eye of Israeli public opinion, or other such considerations.

Hence, the Israeli side in these contacts is required not only to take part demonstrably in them, but also to turn these contacts into an opportunity for more than statements and remarks of goodwill. The question is not about focusing attention or carrying the report in various news media. What is required is to clarify the picture. Israel should make the difficult decisions of recognizing Palestinians rights. Israel cannot achieve peace without giving the Palestinians a piece of the "cake." Israel cannot keep all the "cake" and ask the Palestinians to accept a fait accompli.

We agree with the Israeli prime minister in what he said: The destiny of the Palestinian and Israeli peoples is to live on this land. The prime minister, however, should have added that he believes that each people will be its own master.

The question that recurs in the minds of observers against the background of these meetings is not the recognition of Israel by the Arab side, but more importantly, the extent of Israel's readiness to understand essential Arab demands in the occupied lands and to move forward toward wider international frameworks that will be the acceptable umbrella by Palestinians and Arabs for a just solution based on our people's inalienable rights.

Israel possesses the military capability to continue the occupation in all its phenomena and dimensions. The Arabs in the occupied territories feel that the Palestinian-Israeli contacts should lead to signs and evidence that indicate the goodwill of Israel and the seriousness of its stated peaceful tendencies. This evidence should also address the facts of the residents' daily lives in varous medical, educational, housing, and development fields.

If these contacts are followed up, while the situation of the Arab residents continues to deteriorate and they continue to suffer, the contacts will not create a sufficient impression of the Israeli side's seriousness of its "greater" tendency toward a comprehensive solution to the Palestinian problem.

General Vows To 'Clamp Down' on Islamic Jihad

NC071818 Paris AFP in English 1811 GMT 7 Oct 87

[Text] Beersheva, Israel, Oct 7 (AFP)—Israeli authorities will clamp down on members of the Islamic Jihad group, General Yitzhak Mordechai vowed Wednesday, one day after four Palestinians and a member of Israel's secret service were killed in the Israeli-occupied Gaza Strip.

Gen. Mordechai, commander of Israel's southern front, said two of the dead Palestinians belonged to Islamic Jihad (Holy War), a Palestinian fundamentalist unit that has no links with the pro-Iranian group of the same name holding foreign hostages in Lebanon.

The other two Palestinians had escaped in May from an Israeli prison in the Gaza Strip, Israel radio said earlier. Military sources identified the dead secret service agent as Victor Rajwan, a resident of Beersheva, in southern Israel.

The general said earlier that the Palestinians were preparing a "major operation in the region" when they were spotted by an Israeli military patrol and killed in a shoot-out near Gaza City.

Israeli military authorities said Islamic Jihad has been active in the occupied-territories for a year and has obtained logistic support from Fatah, the mainstream group of the PLO.

Gen. Mordechai told *Agence France-Presse* that several Palestinian suspects had been detained for questioning and that authorities would carry out further operations to discover the accomplices of the slain commandos.

The Israeli Army, meanwhile, held a press conference at Beersheva's military headquarters to show the arms they said were taken from the Palestinians. The weapons displayed included Soviet-made AK-47 rifles, U.S.-made M-16 rifles of the type used by the Israeli Army, and hand grenades.

The latest upsurge of violence in the Gaza Strip brings to seven the number of Palestinians killed there in less than a week. Three Palestinians were killed October 2 when they tried to break through an Israeli military barricade. [AFP submits the following caveat: This article was submitted to Israeli military censorship]

Sharon on USSR, Premiership, Regional Issues

TA071111 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew 7 Oct 87 pp 10-12

[Interview with Industry and Trade Minister Ari'el Sharon by Ilan Kfir, Tzvi Gilat, and Hanan Crystal: "Israel's Arabs; That Is the Problem"—date and place not given]

[Excerpts] [Crystal] If Shamir decides to run for the premiership, will you run against him?

[Sharon] If Shamir does not run, I will run for the premiership in 1988. If Shamir runs, then I do not know. There may be special circumstances.

[Kfir] What do you mean by special?

[Sharon] I mean other special political developments. Let there be no misunderstandings: We are talking about 1988. If Shamir does not run, I will definitely run. If Shamir does run, I believe I will not, unless there are special developments in the political or security spheres which lead to a change in positions. I do not think that will be the case. Shamir is consistent on these matters. Therefore, if nothing special happens, I will not run.

[Crystal] If there are no changes, will you want to be chairman of the Likud's election committee?

[Sharon] It is not a matter of whether I want to or not.

[Kfir] Do you think you are the most suitable man for the job?

[Sharon] I think I can make a contribution as chairman of the election committee. I think it is important and that I should be chairman of the election committee. That is all.

[Kfir] What do you think should be the theme of the elections?

[Sharon] The election theme in the State of Israel will always be matters of life or death. Life or death is not whether an international conference will or will not be held, it is not Shim'on Peres' frivolous stories or off-the-cuff remarks.

[Crystal] As Likud prime minister, would you pursue a line of political or practical Zionism?

[Sharon] When I am prime minister on behalf of the Likud I will pursue efforts to reach peace, as all Israeli prime ministers have done since the state was established. [Passage omitted]

[Gilat] It was reported this week that Shamir conferred with a delegation of Palestinians. Has there been any progress? Is there suddenly somebody to talk to?

[Sharon] There is nothing new in this. There have always been meetings with Palestinians, and the government has a plan, perhaps the only plan in existence, which provides for progress toward peace. This refers to the autonomy plan, the only plan which Israel, Egypt, and the United States agreed on. Negotiations and even a solution can be attained on the basis of this agreement. I would suggest to the Arabs that they do so.

The time has come for you to stop getting all excited about meetings with Arabs. Meetings are important, but there is no need to go overboard.

[Gilat] What are we doing to promote the autonomy plan?

[Sharon] What are you prepared to concede? When are you withdrawing? When will you sign? These questions should not always be addressed to Israel. These questions should first be addressed to the Arabs: What are you prepared to concede? How do you envisage relations with the Jews? When will the murders and acts of sabotage stop? If one wants to promote the peace process, the time has come to explain to the Arabs that peace is as important to them as it is to the Jews. What is this?

Peace is very important to Egypt. Egypt has problems on the border with Libya. It has disputes regarding the Nile waters. It has not been welcomed back into the Arab world. It has very serious economic problems. And, had it not been for peace, it would not receive the aid it gets today from the United States. The Egyptians have one safe border, and that is the border with Israel. The Jordanians also have just one safe border, and that is their border with Israel.

[Gilat] When you say "explaining to the Arabs," you mean the Arab countries. But what about the Palestinians? Do we have to reach an agreement with them as well?

[Kfir] Do you recognize the Palestinian problem, that there is the problem of a people which must be solved?

[Sharon] The solution to the Palestinian problem began in 1922 when the British gave three-quarters of the territory of Eretz Yisra'el to the Arabs. The Jewish problem was solved later and called for a more bitter struggle. Today, there are two countries within the boundaries of Eretz Yisra'el: There is a Jewish state on the west bank of the Jordan River and there is a Palestinian state on the east bank of the Jordan River.

[Kfir] Are you saying that Jordan is the Palestinian state?

[Sharon] Jordan is a Palestinian state for all intents and purposes. Most of its inhabitants—over 80 percent—are Palestinian Arabs and the rest are Bedouins. Are our Bedouins not Israeli citizens? Most Parliament members, most Senate members, most ministers, and the most prominent prime ministers are Palestinian Arabs. Hence, there is a Palestinian state.

There is a Jewish state to the west of the Jordan River and there is a Palestinian state to the east of the Jordan River, and there is a problem in the middle. In the middle there is an area which is currently inhabited by some 700,000 Palestinian Arabs and some 80,000 Jews in various settlements in Judaea and Samaria. I believe this figure will increase....

[Crystal] Both these figures will increase.

[Sharon] Yes, indeed, both these figures will increase. I suppose that the number of Jews will reach some 100,000 next year. There are also some 500,000 Palestinians in the Gaza District. That is not the only problem, however. The most serious problem is within Israel. Today in Israel there are 700,000 Arabs who are Israeli citizens. This population grows very fast and enjoys an excellent economic situation.

[Gilat] Can you define the problem?

[Sharon] The problem is that in the year 2000 there will be about 1 million people who do not bear the primary obligations of Israeli citizens.

[Gilat] There is no wish to impose these obligations on them.

[Sharon] The problem is as follows: There will be 1 million people who share neither all the obligations nor all the rights, although they formally have them. For

example, an Arab cannot be appointed to just any job. They also do not share all the obligations. But this sector of the public actually determines which government Israel will have!

[Gilat] I thought the religious people did.

[Crystal] The sector you mention may determine it in the future.

[Sharon] No, it already determines it today.

[Kfir] Does the Arab vote have more of a political impact than the religious vote?

[Sharon] The religious vote has an impact after the elections, while the Arab vote has an impact during the elections. The bottom line is that in Israel, the government is formed by the one who wins the largest number of mandates in the elections. For example, we know that in the last elections the Arab vote gave at least three mandates to the Labor Party.

In other words, those who ultimately decided who should form the government were the Arab residents of Israel. This is inconceivable in view of the fact that this sector of the population does not share all the obligations and, admittedly, not all the rights either. This is simply inconceivable. The situation on this issue will be more definite in the year 2000.

[Kfir] You say that that is the Alignment's chance.

[Sharon] Their only hope.

[Crystal] You mean to say they should be deprived of their right to vote.

[Sharon] I propose something entirely different. I propose what I have been proposing time and again for the last 20 years. The solution is totally different. The solution is that the Arab population in Israel should share all the obligations and all the rights.

[Kfir] Would you favor an opposite equation: first all the rights, then all the obligations?

[Sharon] A few years ago I gave a speech in an Arab village. I explained why I favor a Palestinian state in Jordan, and I emphasize the latter. I said that the problem that bothers me is not the Arabs of Judaea, Samaria, and the Gaza District. Why? Because all sorts of options regarding them exist. There are those who want to give back everything and there are those who want to annex everything.

What troubles me is the problem of Israel's Arabs. Here there are no options. We will always have to live with part of you, I said. But it is inconceivable that you should determine which government Israel should have as long as you do not share all the obligations and all the rights. And that is why I am in favor of a Palestinian state. Today, when your brethren are fighting the State of Israel, you see Israel fighting the Arab brethren. When the day comes and there is a Palestinian state, however, you will stop complaining.

Then we will come to you and tell you: Look, there is no longer any room for such complaints. From now on you share all the obligations just as any other citizen of the State of Israel, and you will serve in the IDF just as everybody else does. And what if we do not want to? a man in the audience asked. That is very simple, I said. There are 80,000 Jewish inhabitants in Israel who are not Israeli citizens. They do everything: they live here, they father children, they work, they drive the buses, use the hospitals, study in schools and vote for the municipal authorities—everything. What do they not do? They do not vote for the Knesset.

So, whether you are citizens of any country, or of a Palestinian state, you do not have to leave here, God forbid. You will live here. This is a free country. However, it is inconceivable that 1 million people should determine the political regime without sharing all the obligations. [passage omitted]

[Gilat] Who should we talk to about a Palestinian state? To Husayn? To 'Arafat? To Faysal al-Husayni? To whom?

[Sharon] This may definitely be discussed with Husayn. We have nothing against him. I am in no way against the king. If people want to talk to the king, let them talk to him or with anybody who wants to talk. Quit this walking around with a stopwatch in hand. There is nothing happening here, so stop running around. Whoever wants to talk will talk.

[Crystal] What is your position on the 'Amirav affair? Should he be expelled from Herut? Some think that both Dan Meridor and Beni Begin were involved in the talks.

[Sharon] I think the contacts 'Amirav held were unnecessary and very damaging. All those who encouraged him were wrong.

[Crystal] What about Beni Begin?

[Sharon] I do not know and I am not interested. This was a serious mistake. Anyone who encouraged him, who knew about the contacts and did not stop him, is to some extent an accomplice.

[Gilat] What damage did 'Amirav's talks cause?

[Sharon] As a Jew I would feel more comfortable if you showed excitement over Jewish issues.

[Gilat] This is a Jewish issue.

[Sharon] What damage? It is not of an electoral nature. The damage is to peace and to relations between Jews and Arabs, because all those who give the Arabs false hopes or a distorted picture of the situation and raise their expectations are simply driving peace further away. That is exactly what Shim'on Peres is doing today. He is driving peace further away because any excessive expectations push peace away.

[Kfir] How do the meetings with the Soviets, with Husayn, with the Chinese, in addition to other political moves, drive away peace?

[Sharon] I am in favor of relations with all countries. Talks and meetings with Arab countries, Arabs, Palestinians—I have no complaints on that count. I have a complaint about his amateurish assessments of what is happening. For example, take the Soviet Union. This is an enormous superpower shrouded in mystery and secrecy. Changes may be taking place there and they should be studied carefully. I hope changes are taking place.

It is irresponsible and frivolous to hold a meeting of 1 hour and 40 minutes with a Soviet foreign minister—and I welcome the meeting—and then come out with cries of joy over a dramatic change in the Soviet attitude toward Israel. To say today that there has been a dramatic change is a mistake. Let me give you another example: The vice prime minister takes this frivolous and superficial approach, sticking to the notion of an international conference as if he were the man who invented it.

Let me say: The Soviets plan to advance toward peace with the current U.S. Administration. On the face of it, this would seem to be a positive move, but perhaps we should analyze what this means for us. This is a very lengthy process. It means we would agree to Soviet participation, while the United States will have a new president next year. So, what is Shim'on Peres talking about? Everybody understands that as far as we are concerned this is very dangerous.

As for the talks with the Chinese, they did not start today. They began in 1979 and scored great achievements. However, there is a difference. Begin gave priority to national interests and preferred to keep quiet, as on the rescue of the Ethiopian Jews. So what? Did the issue of the Ethiopian Jews start in 1984? Over a period of several years we rescued some 8,000 Ethiopian Jews. There were harsh attacks against the government on this issue. But in contrast to Peres, Begin had national responsibility.

[Gilat] It was not Peres that disclosed the Ethiopian issue.

[Sharon] We dealt with this issue for many years, by intricate means. We brought over 8,000 Jews to Israel but nobody said a word. Well, let us drop this subject.

[Kfir] Why are you afraid of an international conference? The U.S. secretary of state will come here and tell the prime minister: Let us go together. If the Soviets behave as Sharon believes they will, we will get up and leave. What is it that frightens you on this issue?

[Sharon] Israel is a small country. One must remember that. Israel must not be driven into situations where it has to make very difficult decisions. Does anybody think that Israel would be able to attend such a conference, and at a certain point, when something is not to its liking, stand up and leave in front of the entire world, the United States, the Soviet Union, the PRC, and other countries? It will be impossible to leave. Israel would be putting itself in an intolerable situation. The way to negotiations is different. There must be a dialogue among the Jews in Israel that will reach the widest agreement on the kind of peace plan that can be pursued. I proposed as much to Shamir and Peres.

[Gilat] What do you think is the national consensus?

[Sharon] At present, only the autonomy plan as perceived by Israel.

[Crystal] But Husayn is not a signatory to this plan.

[Sharon] So he is not.

[Kfir] So we do not make peace?

[Sharon] Our relations with Jordan, with whom we have a de facto peace, if not a de jure one, are closer than with Egypt. The situation can remain unchanged for a long time. The demographic ratio has not changed to Israel's detriment in the past 20 years, not even by 1 percent.

[Crystal] Is this not a demographic bomb, as Peres has said?

[Sharon] I recognize a problem, but I do not see a bomb. I see a problem that can be dealt with.

[Crystal] Like the transfers that your colleague proposed.

[Sharon] I have never proposed a transfer. This idea comes from a past school of thought in the Labor Movement. I propose only practical moves.

[Gilat] So what? Is there not a problem?

[Sharon] I did not say there was not a problem. But I can tell you that when we were not sitting in Judaea and Samaria, our security situation was much worse. If we take the 1950's, before the Sinai campaign as an example, can we not see what happened to us in a small Israel? Can we not see what people are striving for? After all, terrorist acts have not stopped in all those years. [Passage omitted]

Birri Asks Algerian Aid on Camps Initiative

NC071302 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 7 Oct 87

[Text] Following a meeting with Algerian Ambassador Hadi Messaoud today, Nabih Birri, minister of state for the South and reconstruction affairs, said that he had asked Algerian officials to intervene directly to prevent a deterioration of the situation and to ensure that the implementation of his initiative to end the camps war is not evaded.

He noted that the atmosphere is very tense, and this is beginning to be manifested on the nationalist and Palestinian levels. There are also regional and international moves, he said, to exploit new battles being planned. The fuel for these will be the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples, he added.

He went on to say: We insist on the implementation of the initiative, which needs no explanation. Nevertheless, we declare our readiness to translate this initiative in the following manner: The whole initiative can be implemented in one fell swoop. It need take no more than 48 hours.

He noted that he had given details of this matter to the Algerian ambassador, inviting him to be a witness regarding Amal's intentions.

Amal, Palestinians Clash East of Sidon 7 Oct

NC071504 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 7 Oct 87

[Text] According to security reports this afternoon, a state of extreme tension prevails in areas southeast of Sidon. Military sources in the Amal Movement have reported that the Movement's positions came under artillery fire at midnight last night. At the same time, Palestinians were fortifying positions in Al-Mharbiyah and Baysur. There were also clashes on the combat lines of Jinsnaya, Al-Mharbiyah, Baysur, and (Jabal al-Halib).

The sources also report that Palestinian bulldozers were seen near (Tallat Sirub) this morning, after which artillery shelled the Movement's positions in Tanburit. Palestinian bulldozers were seen at 1300 today fortifying positions on the Al-Mharbiyah hills. A concentration of forces was also seen in the area. At 1315 today 'Arafat's groups directed mortar fire at Kafr Hatta and Al-Mujaydil. Antiaircraft fire was also directed at the Amal Movement positions in Tanburit.

Ja'ja' Adviser on Election, Unification

NC071500 Beirut MONDAY MORNING in English 28 Sep-4 Oct 87 pp17-20

[Interview with Tawfiq Hindi, political counselor to Samir Ja'ja', Lebanese Forces commander in chief, by unidentified *Monday Morning* reporter "last week"—place not given]

[Text] [Reporter] You have asked for a government of national independence, but no one responded. Does this mean that you have failed and that you insist on achieving this by force?

[Hindi] It is not true that no one responded to this initiative. On the contrary, with time, many will respond openly, and some are inwardly convinced that agreement on this government is necessary. I don't think that this issue will be achieved by force, but by diplomatic and political means, before the end of the president's term in office.

[Reporter] What is the stand of the Lebanese Forces regarding a national conference, whether you are invited, or you were excluded?

[Hindi] A national conference as it is proposed, is well understood, in view of the "basic side" which called for it, and which is working for its convening, namely Syria. Its goal is to isolate the "liberated areas." Thus our stand is clear. Its goal is not one of unification, but aims at gathering all the forces in the "occupied areas" to exert pressure on the "liberated regions".

[Reporter] What is your viewpoint regarding the statement by Patriarch Sfayr, in which he said "it is not necessary for the displaced to return to their homes as though they are victorious, conquerors or invaders".

[Hindi] Definitely, it is not necessary that they return as conquerors, but they should return with their full liberty and dignity. They should not be considered as "second class citizens" in the areas from which they were displaced.

[Reporter] Reports were circulated concerning military rounds in most of the regions prior to the presidential election. How far is this true?

[Hindi] I don't think there will be major military rounds, but I can't say the contrary. As far as we are concerned, we definitely do not have a military goal. But if military action is imposed on us, we shall respond appropriately.

Conditions so far don't indicate such battles might erupt in the light that Syria does not have regional and international support to take such a step. There are strong contradictions among all those who collaborated with Syria, whether willingly or unwillingly, because they are collaborating with Syria on the basis of the accomplished fact. Now these contradictions in positions between these sides and Syria, are increasing. The military operations proved to be useless during the war, because the "liberated areas" have sufficient capabilities to answer back.

[Reporter] It was reported that Samir Ja'ja' will declare his candidacy, but is waiting for the right time. How true is this?

[Hindi] I would like to reiterate my statement that the presidential election bypass the mere election of a president, to the beginning of a solution, and I believe that this occasion embarasses all the countries, which do not expect any such circumstances. The embarrassment is

that the "liberated areas" reject the method of the previous elections, in other words, reaching a sort of negotiation with the occupier, in a bid to reach a settlement.

I think it is a crime to impose on Lebanon's future for the coming six months, a negotiation probably between Syria and certain countries in order to have a candidate that will administer the crisis.

The situation now is not like that of 1976, when the economic and social conditions in Lebanon were strong. There was a minimum level of coherence within the administrative authority, but today the state is shabby and torn. Thus the situation now is different from that of the past and it would be a crime if the Lebanese Forces accepted the present equations. Any president, whoever he may be, cannot achieve any result. On the contrary, the people will become desperate and unable to tolerate the accomplished fact.

[Reporter] Samir Ja'ja' declared that the Lebanese Forces, the Army and the president are in one trench. Does this mean that there is a tripartite alliance facing the Front for Unification and Liberation?

[Hindi] Definitely, there is more than coordination but less than an alliance. There is a unification attempt in the "liberated areas". The importance lies in the fact that it is not a force facing the Front for Unification and Liberation in as much as it is one aiming at liberation. What we mean by liberation is the liberation from all foreign forces on Lebanese territory and not only from the Israeli forces. Thus, Syria forms a basic obstacle at this stage in liberating Lebanon from all foreign forces. If Syria leaves Lebanon, this will be the pretext for the withdrawal of all foreign countries from Lebanon.

On the other hand, the Israeli stand is not in favor of stopping the war in the Gulf, and in our viewpoint, this is part of the Israeli policy which manifests the American policy in the region. On their part, the Americans devote special attention to Israel and consider that they are regionally supported by Israel, and by their cooperation with moderate Arab states. Within this framework, Israel tries to maintain this war within specific limits without having negative outcomes on present conditions. It wants to prove to the United States, that the Arab countries cannot safeguard its interests in the region.

[Reporter] What do you think about the priorities for the United States in the Middle East?

[Hindi] The first priority for the United States is to stop the Gulf war, especially that it was transformed from an Iraqi-Iranian war to an Iranian-Arab one. Some Arab oil countries are already involved in this war. There is great probability that the Gulf war will come to an end. The United States is trying to reach minimum level of accord with the Soviet Union, on one hand, and is trying to boycott all the countries which have positive relations, be it commercial or military with Iran on the other hand.

Within this framework, the United States is trying to drive a wedge between Syria and Iran. In our viewpoint Syria will maintain its alliance with Iran but to a lesser extent, and at the same time reconsider its relations with Iraq, without of course making profound changes in its position regarding the Gulf war issue.

But I don't think the United States will succeed in this respect, in trying to separate Syria and Iran... In view of the contradiction between them, I don't expect Syria to play a major role in the Gulf war. This war will exert pressure on the moderate Arab states, to force them to accept the accomplished facts.

The other point, the aim of the American policy is to push ahead the peace process towards an international conference for peace. I believe that this conference has no hope of convening or of success, if it is convened, because there are many problems which prevent its convening. From the American viewpoint, this conference will be held for bilateral negotiations between Israel and each of the Arab states separately, but according to the Soviets, it is going to be a comprehensive gathering for Arab-Israeli negotiations, following which the resolutions will be applicable and mandatory.

Many problems will emerge, such as who will represent the Palestinians, the PLO or members of a joint Palestinian-Jordanian delegation. Will Syria participate and how? As for Israel, it is divided. The Labor Party wants an international conference for peace, while the Likud bloc rejects this conference, and this coalition is stronger than the Labor Party.

Even if this conference is convened, it will lead nowhere, because there are many differences between the Israeli and Arab moderation. This is why I rule out the possibility of convening this conference at present. Moves towards peace from the Western and American viewpoints will fill a political vacuum and will prevent war in the Middle East area. Within this framework, the United States considers Syria as an important force in the peace formation, on the military and political levels.

The third priority for the United States is the role of Syria in Lebanon, through the two previous priorities, with respect to the current terrorism in Lebanon and the hostage issue. This does not mean that the United States has given Syria the green light in Lebanon. This is not true. There are certain specific items allowed for Syria in Lebanon, and the rest are rejected by the United States.

Following this, inter-Lebanese negotiations will start whereby the Lebanese will gather around one table and will hold discussions as true Lebanese, and not as parties representing the wishes and trends of outside forces. The

Lebanese are supposed to liberate their land, and their discussions should represent the wish of the Lebanese to unify their country, and not those of the occupants.

[Reporter] It was reported that Ja'ja' prevented Dany Sham'un from visiting Minister Junblatt in Chouf, to thank him for his participation in his father's funeral. Is that true?

[Hindi] No. This is not true. We did nothing of the sort.

[Reporter] What was the aim of the Lebanese Forces vice president's visit to France? What was the outcome? Are there other tours, and where?

[Hindi] L.F. Vice-President Karim Paqraduni's visit aimed at presenting the Lebanese problem objectively. The problem we are facing is the problem of two occupations, the wars among them and the war against the Lebanese and through the Lebanese. In addition, there were proposals made in a bid to urge France to participate in these solutions. As for the other tours, they are not ruled out.

[Reporter] Important talks were reported to be held between President al-Jumayyil and Mr. Shultz, providing for a Lebanese-American pact, to confront the Soviet-Syrian pact. What do you expect from the president's visit to the United States?

[Hindi] I am not informed about such details, and I rule out the possibility of discussing such a Lebanese-American pact, to confront the Soviet-Syrian one. We appeal to President al-Jumayyil to follow up his proposal which he launched at the Francophone summit in Quebec. It is very important to notify the superpowers and the small countries that there is an official and a popular Lebanese stand, which objectively and clearly presents its issue. He asked these countries to include the Lebanese cause in their accounts.

[Reporter] What is the Lebanese Forces' stand regarding the elections of the House speaker and the deputy speaker? Will you support Husayni and Mukhaybir? Or do you have your own candidates?

[Hindi] We are trying to show the Lebanese national role in the parliament, and its ability to reject the accomplished fact, and those following that foreign policy.

[Reporter] Do you think President al-Jumayyil will form a new cabinet after his return from the United States?

[Hindi] This is what I would like to happen. It is possible.

[Reporter] How do you explain the American-Soviet accord, and what is its repercussions on the Gulf war, the Middle East problem, and the Lebanese crisis?

[Hindi] There is accord over arms limitation and over the situation in the Gulf area. This accord was demonstrated through the U.N. Security Council resolution to stop the war. We should not consider their accord on certain items as an end to their contradictions and to the struggle between the two superpowers.

The struggle will take a new direction, especially over spheres of influences. We give an example, when the Western fleets entered the Arabian Gulf, there was a Soviet stand opposing this entry. The Soviets were supporting Iran against the American fleet. Thus, the war of the Gulf will continue, because Iran will not follow the way of the "balance of power" which is a Western logic, but rather the logic of the Islamic revolution in Iran, which rejects it. When force is imposed on them, they will react more fiercely, because they are aware of the current struggle between the superpowers.

The role of Syria in Lebanon will, I think become to attack the fundamentalists in Lebanon, to take hold of the Palestinian card, and to control the security situation in the areas where these forces are found, whereby Syria will be able to solve the issues of terrorism and that of the hostages. We do not expect success for Syria in this mission, because it is unable and unwilling to put an end to terrorism and to the hostage issue. In order to reach a final solution, Syria is requested to enter the southern suburb, where Hizballah is located. This matter is ruled out for the following reasons:

1. This means complete boycott between Syria and Iran, and this is unacceptable by Syria.

2. This entry will cause a great number of victims among the Shi'ite ranks and among the Syrian Army.

3. This issue will result in a massive Shi'ite and Amal basis around Hizballah.

4. This situation will weaken Nabih Birri, who is considered the basic ally of Syria.

5. This situation will also create an antagonistic status between the Shi'ites and Syria, thus resulting in Syria losing a basic pressure tool in Lebanon.

6. It will also prompt Iran to intensify its aid to fundamentalist movement and Palestinians, not only in Lebanon, but in Syria as well.

[Reporter] What do you wish the Saudi role to be, on the political and military levels after its engagement in the Gulf war?

[Hindi] We understand the Saudi positive outlook towards Lebanon, and we wonder, until when will the aid allocated by the Arab states for Lebanon remain frozen amidst the present political situation and in the absence of an effective Saudi diplomacy on the Lebanese

scene, because of security conditions. We should however note the practical role of Saudi Arabia in helping Lebanon and supporting its sovereignty, independence and liberty. In my viewpoint, Saudi Arabia is more concerned for Lebanon than any other Arab country, in view of its great role on both the Arab and Islamic levels on the one hand, and because of the impact of the Gulf war on the conditions in Lebanon.

I believe there is a new Saudi trend, at present, which will play a more effective role in resolving significant Lebanese issues. The important address made by the Saudi monarch to the Lebanese people, in which he confirmed his deep concern for Lebanon's sovereignty, unity and independence, under the Lebanese legitimacy, and the peaceful dialogue confirms Saudi Arabia's concern to resolve the Lebanese crisis.

We have already extended our thanks to Saudi Arabia through the media, for the humanitarian and social aid granted by King Fahd to the Lebanese people without discrimination.

What is requested from Saudi Arabia now, is practical help in rebuilding the infrastructure of the Lebanese economy, whose basis have been shaken as a result of the political crisis and as a result of the various occupations of Lebanon. We, therefore, are looking forward for the return of Saudi Arabia to its unique and distinguished role, or to its role within the Arab comprehensive framework to solve all the problems engulfing the Lebanese crisis. I believe that this forms part of the Saudi concerns, in view of the fact that the Lebanese crisis and the Gulf war are very closely connected.

[Reporter] What is your opinion regarding the call for convening an Arab summit, where one party calls for discussion of the Gulf war, and the other party calls for an agent that will include all regional topics?

[Hindi] In my opinion, the major topic that should be discussed is the Gulf war, because the great danger threatening the Arab states, is now from Iran. The gravity of this issue lies in the fact that it is an outside danger which affects internal conditions in all Arab states. Therefore, we expect Saudi Arabia to play a role in unifying the Arab ranks and restoring Egypt to the Arab fold in view of the latter's importance in terms of military power, political weight, and population size, and its ability to play a major role in the Gulf war.

Syria's proposal concerning the Arab-Israeli conflict is an attempt to maintain Arab boycott of Egypt, thus rendering a great service for Iran. What is most important in this phase, is Iran's war against the Arabs. The Arabs should confront the danger, and should concentrate on discussing the Gulf war since diverting their discussions to other regional issues would disintegrate Arab ranks in confronting the growing Islamic fundamentalism coming from the outside and causing internal instability in various Arab states.

If the Arabs unite against the Persian enemy, not only verbally but practically, the stands of the superpowers will change. The latter then will be forced to commit themselves seriously, and will take firm measures regarding Iran. Arab solidarity will reflect positively on the internal conditions within the concerned countries, and will obstruct all disorders caused by Iran, through local groups in each state.

Al-Asad Reportedly To Attend Amman Arab Summit

JN071406 Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic
1315 GMT 7 Oct 87

[Text] Dubayy, 7 Oct (WAM)—*Al-Bayan* newspaper has reported that Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad has agreed to attend the extraordinary Arab summit conference which will be held in Amman on 8 November.

The paper said this approval, which was conveyed to King Husayn of Jordan in the past 2 days, came in response to a message the Jordanian monarch sent to the Syrian president. The message included the outcome of King Husayn's visit to the Arab Gulf countries last week and his talks with their leaders.

The paper also reported that King Husayn's message to the Syrian president included the approval of the Arab Gulf countries' leaders to list the issue of the Arab-Israeli dispute on the extraordinary summit agenda, in addition to the Iraq-Iran war and the exacerbating situation in the Gulf.

Citing observers in Amman, *Al-Bayan* said that among the goals of the Jordanian monarch's visit to Baghdad yesterday was to obtain Iraqi President Saddam Husayn's approval of listing this item on the summit agenda and not to limit it to only one topic, namely, the Gulf war.

QNA: Cites Paper on Qaddumi-Al-Shar' Meeting

JN080930 Doha QNA in Arabic 0910 GMT 8 Oct 87

[Text] Al-Shariqah, 8 Oct (QNA)—Press reports said here today that Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar', during his stay in New York last week, met with Faruq Qaddumi, head of the PLO Political Department. *Al-Khalij*, published in the UAE, cited informed sources as saying that the meeting touched in detail on Syrian-Palestinian relations. They also discussed various aspects of the Arab-Israeli conflict and the situation in Lebanon.

In another development the paper said that Hasan al-Sabbagh, PNC member, is currently visiting Damascus where he conveyed to Syrian officials messages from PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat.

Afghanistan

Defense Minister Meets Soviet Counterpart

LD080631 Kabul BAKHTAR in English
0429 GMT 8 Oct 87

[Text] Kabul, October 7, *Bakhtar*—Gen. Muhammad Rafie, Politburo member of the PDPA CC and minister of defence of the DRA who is paying an official visit to the Soviet Union met with Gen. Dimitriy Yazov, alternate member of Political Branch [as received] of CPSU Central Committee and minister of defence of the Soviet Union.

Both sides exchanged views on matters of mutual interest during the meeting which took place in a friendly atmosphere.

Politburo Examines Reconciliation Measures

LD072100 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari
1530 GMT 7 Oct 87

[Text] The regular session of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo was held today.

The PDPA Central Committee Politburo considered a report by Comrade Muhammad Aslam Watanjar, PDPA Central Committee Politburo member and DRA communications minister, about the positive results of the Afghan delegation's visit to the Soviet Union to arrange the joint Afghan-Soviet space flight.

The Politburo pointed out that this flight is regarded as another important step to consolidate Afghan-Soviet friendship and to enhance the DRA's international authority. The results of its research will be regarded as an important gain for prospects of DRA socioeconomic development.

During the visit the delegation conveyed the best wishes of the DRA party and government leadership and of Comrade Dr Najibullah, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and president of the DRA Revolutionary Council, to the Soviet side for preparing the ground for the joint space flight, agreed on in Moscow during a meeting with M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. This flight is regarded as a sign of the formidable fraternal confidence and disinterested friendship between the people of the two countries.

The PDPA Central Committee Politburo also considered and assessed the circumstances for implementing the complex policies for expanding and consolidating the government authority and the convening of local elections for local state power and administrative organs and measures to accelerate work in these fields.

The Politburo pointed out that the national reconciliation policy provides the broad possibilities for the successful expansion and consolidation of government authority, and the convocation of elections for local state power and national administrative organs.

As a result of the national reconciliation policy, which is broadly supported by the country's various classes and all nationalities and tribes, administrative units are being broadened and 658 villages in the provinces and Khost District were declared peace zones.

As of 21 March, party and social organizations, literacy courses, and new schools have been built in the liberated administrative units, and over 14,000 compatriots have joined the revolutionary defense groups, revolutionary guards, border militia, self-defense groups, and tribal detachments.

The election process for local power organs is being continued. In this election, 86 percent of the eligible voters took part, and a total of 1,149 representatives from the opposition groups and 340 representatives of returnees were elected to the people's delegates' councils from among workers, peasants, tradesmen, clergymen, intelligentsia, and other strata.

In endorsing the positive results achieved, the Politburo pointed out the defects and shortcomings in implementing the complex plan, expanding and consolidating government sovereignty, and convening local council elections, and issued instructions to the relevant organs to eliminate the shortcomings.

The PDPA Central Committee Politburo also approved the proceedings marking the 70th anniversary of the Great October Revolution and expressed satisfaction with the tasks accomplished by party and government organs in this respect.

The PDPA Central Committee Politburo also considered a number of national and international issues.

Tribal Clans Congratulate Najib on Election

LD072018 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari
1600 GMT 7 Oct 87

[Text] This morning the elders of seven tribal clans of the Jaji tribe, in a meeting at Salamkhana Palace, the headquarters of the Revolutionary Council, congratulated Comrade Dr Najibullah on his election as the president of the DRA Revolutionary Council and the president of the Revolutionary Council Presidium.

The meeting of the Jaji tribe started with the recitation of some verses from the holy Koran.

Then Sarjangwazir, Haji Besmellah, Haji Tajoddun, Gharsaa Gol, Haji Golbat and Haji Bahadur congratulated Comrade Dr Najibullah on his election to the

highest organ of state power and promised that they are prepared for any type of cooperation and assistance with him in discharging the great national duties that he confronts.

In response, Comrade Dr Najibullah, general secretary of PDPA Central Committee, president of the Revolutionary Council, and president of the Revolutionary Council Presidium, expressing his gratitude, said that the position of the head of the state does not belong to a few people and a few families, but belongs to the brave Afghan nation. He said the fulfillment of this sensitive and complicated job under the current situation is not an easy task. Only those who have the support of the nation and people can successfully achieve such a great and responsible job. History has proven this. Now that history is written in the name of the nation of Afghanistan, all tribes and nations of the region and even the countries of the world have focused their attention on our moves, the measures taken and actions to see how we pass the difficult test of putting an end to the war and ensuring peace successfully.

National reconciliation, declared in our country, has not only been generally approved by our people but has also attracted the attention and interest of a large number of countries in the rest of the world. In Central America a number of (?nations), following the DRA, have adopted such a policy.

Mansur: 80 Percent of Soviets 'Cleansed' Out

LD071902 Tehran IRNA in English 1828 GMT 7 Oct 87

[Text] Kerman, Oct. 7, IRNA—Combatant people of Afghanistan have so far cleansed over 80 percent of their Islamic homeland of the occupying Soviet forces, leader of Harakat-e Enqelab-e Eslami-e (Islamic Revolutionary Movement) Party of Afghanistan Mawlawi Nasrollah Mansur announced here today.

Mansur said although the Soviet forces have not spared the use of their military might against Afghan massive mujahidin, they have utterly failed in achieving even the remotest success. "Aggressors naturally cannot remain in occupied lands," he stressed.

The Afghan leader termed any other replacement short of Islamic for the puppet Kabul rulers as "futile." The so-called national reconciliation plan as well as establishment of a ministry for tribes and ethnic minorities by the Kabul regime will no doubt face defeat, he added.

The U.S., on the other hand, outrageously claims to support Afghan mujahidin, said Mansur. Washington does not want an Islamic government to come to power in Afghanistan, he said, because the U.S. fears mujahidin will team up with the Islamic Republic of Iran to form a great Islamic power. "True the U.S.S.R. is our enemy, but the U.S. is an even more dangerous enemy," Mansur pointed.

He reiterated that mujahidin combatants both from northern and southern Afghanistan will continue their holy war, and thwart all conspiracies.

On the Soviet crimes in this Muslim country, Mansur said the Russians have so far levelled to the ground countless villages, schools, mosques and shrines, and demolished farmlands, forests, dams and food resources in the greater part of the country.

During seven years of Soviet aggression and nine years of mujahidin struggle against the Kabul rulers, 1.4 million Afghan people, mostly women and children were martyred, said the leader.

Elsewhere Mansur described the bloody catastrophe of Mecca as "painful" and said Islamic history had not witnessed such a disaster before. Saudi impudence against defenceless hajj pilgrims is one of the unprecedented crimes in Islam, he said.

India

Defense Minister To Visit Colombo 9 Oct

BK081303 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 8 Oct 87

[Text] The defense minister, Mr K.C. Pant, is paying a day's visit tomorrow to Colombo for discussions with the Sri Lankan president, Mr Jayewardene, and other leaders on matters relating to the implementation of the Indo-Sri Lanka agreement.

Announcing this in New Delhi today the External Affairs Ministry spokesman said that the recent developments in the northern and eastern provinces of the island will also figure at the talks.

Army Chief of Staff Flies to Sri Lanka 8 Oct

BK080755 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT 8 Oct 87

[Text] The chief of Army staff, General K. Sunderji, flew to Sri Lanka this morning. He will visit Trincomalee and Jaffna and will hold discussions with senior commanders of the peace-keeping force. Gen Sunderji will also visit the troops in the island.

Spokesman Strongly Condemns LTTE Killings

BK071620 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 7 oct 87

[Excerpts] An official spokesman said in New Delhi today that India is determined to implement the provisions of the India-Sri Lanka agreement and will use all the force at its command to preserve peace and communal harmony in Sri Lanka. [Passage omitted]

He said the Indian Government strongly condemns the wanton acts of killing of innocent men, women, and children by the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam in the

Northern and Eastern Provinces since last night. Expressing India's deep shock and revulsion at the brutal killings, the spokesman said these followed the acts of intimidation, violence and coercion by the LTTE in which it killed over 100 fellow Tamils after the signing of the agreement.

He said the Indian Government has made every possible attempt to make the LTTE renounce the cult of violence and resort to democractic means to ensure the welfare and wellbeing of the Tamils which it claims to represent. The recent acts of the LTTE, however, clearly demonstrate that it is determined to resort to violence, indiscriminate killing, coercion, and intimidation. The LTTE also seems to be determined to prevent the implementation of the agreement.

The spokesman pointed out that the agreement is designed to meet the legitimate aspirations of the Tamils in Sri Lanka while acknowledging the multiethnic, multilingual, and pluralistic character of Sri Lankan society.

Replying to queries from newsmen, the spokesman said that the peacekeeping force is suitably empowered and equipped to meet the situation and fulfill its task of maintaining peace. Replying to another question, he said the Indian high commissioner, Mr J.N. Dixit, called on President Jayewardene twice yesterday and the day before and conveyed to him messages from the prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi.

About attacks by the LTTE, the spokesman said according to reports reaching New Delhi, the Tamil Tigers are operating in small groups of 2 and 3 in different areas of the Eastern Province.

Police Remove Tibetans Outside PRC Embassy

BK070430 Hong Kong AFP in English 0416 GMT 7 Oct 87

[Text] New Delhi, Oct 7 (AFP)—Police removed eight Tibetans from outside the Chinese Embassy here Wednesday as exiled Tibetans launched an indefinite relay hunger-strike to pursue an independence campaign, witnesses said.

The hunger strikers from the Tibetan Youth Congress were taken away by Indian police just 15 minutes after they began the protest.

A second team of hunger strikers would resume the protest outside the embassy Friday and be replaced after 48 hours by another group, a spokesman said.

The Congress set three conditions for ending the strike—the release of all those arrested during recent demonstrations in Tibet against Chinese rule, a U.N. investigation into the use of force by the Chinese to put down the demonstrations, and an Amnesty International investigation of human rights violations in Tibet.

Police were expected to release the first batch of hunger strikers later Wednesday but the protesters were threatening to return to the embassy.

Tibetans in Dharamsala, where the Tibetan's spiritual and temporary leader the Dalai Lama lives, and in other parts of India, would also launch hunger strikes from Wednesday, the spokesman said.

The strike was also to commemorate the founding of the Congress 17 years ago.

8 People Killed in Violence in Amritsar

BK080349 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 8 Oct 87

[Text] In Punjab, eight persons, including two terrorists, were killed in separate incidents of violence in Amritsar District last night. Four persons were gunned down and one seriously injured by terrorists in village Bopa Rai under Lopoke police station.

In a separate incident, another person was killed in Jhabal area by the terrorists. One villager was also killed in (Sheron) village. One terrorist was killed in an encounter with the police in Chogawan area and another in Sahali area.

Punjab Police Arrest 'Dreaded' Terrorist

BK071600 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 7 Oct 87

[Text] In Punjab, a dreaded terrorist, Gurdev Singh Usmanwala, was killed in an encounter with the police in Nakodar area of Jullundur district last night. The Punjab police chief, Mr Ribeiro, said Usmanwala was a member of the so-called 5-member panthic [Sikh religious] committee and among the five dreaded terrorists who had issued a secessionist statement from the Golden Temple in April last year. Two of the terrorists, Arur Singh and Dhanna Singh, have already been arrested.

Commentary Analyzes Sri Lanka Developments

BK081227 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1010 GMT 8 Oct 87

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] The explosion of violence in last 48 hours in Sri Lanka, the worst since the 29 July peace agreement, has come as a severe damper to the hopes that normalcy would soon be restored to the island nation torn by 4 years of very ethnic conflict. The killing of over 150 persons, mostly civilians belonging to the majority Sinhalese community, by the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam [LTTE] to avenge the suicide of 13 of its members in Sri Lankan army custody has raised a specter of Sinhalese backlash.

In the event of a Sinhalese backlash, the peace agreement signed by the prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, and the Sri Lankan president, Mr J.R. Jayewardene, is bound to face near insurmountable strain. Facing the threat posed to the agreement by both the Sinhalese and Tamil hardliners, India has vowed to use all the force at its command to preserve peace and communal harmony in the island. It has also warned the elements, like the LTTE, out to subvert the agreement that strongest of measures would be used to thwart their attempts.

As a further demonstration of India's unswerving determination to implement the agreement, the chief of army staff, General K. Sunderji, flew into Colombo on Thursday [8 October] to supervise and assess the situation and give directions to the Indian peacekeeping force [IPKF] to effectively deal with the explosive situation.

The wanton and brutal killing of Sinhalese civilians is certain to be exploited by the extremist elements in the majority community to whip up a frenzy of violence against Tamils in other parts of Sri Lanka unless such attempts are nipped in the bud by the authorities in Colombo. On its part India has already empowered, equipped, and directed the IPKF to deal with LTTE effectively if it continues to indulge in these senseless killings. The strength of the IPKF has also been suitably augmented with more units of the army flown into the northern and eastern provinces of the island in the last few days.

The LTTE rampage in the last 2 days has left the IPKF with no option but to play a more aggressive role now to arrest their drift. Its primary part, as envisaged in 29 July agreement, was to ensure that the cessation of hostilities between the Sri Lankan security forces and the Tamil militants is observed by the two warring sides. It was also to infuse confidence and a sense of security among the Tamils in the northern and eastern provinces. That IPKF has achieved both the aims is noteworthy.

The Government of India's direction to IPKF to take all necessary measures to deal with the situation and the visit of General Sunderji to the affected areas are a clear indication that if the LTTE still refuses come round to democratic process, it will have to face the might of the the IPKF. A direct confrontation between the LTTE and the IPKF will really be a piquant situation for India to face. But it has to undertake this unpleasant task for the LTTE appears determined to precipitate the crisis knowing fully well that this would be playing into hands of the Sinhala extremists opposed to the agreement.

By holding up the formation of the interim administrative council by raising one demand or another, the LTTE has come in the way of constituting a police force to look after the law and order duties in northern and and eastern provinces. That LTTE is restoring to these delaying tactics in spite of being given a lion's share of seats—7 in the 12-member council—is naturally being taken as intended to scuttle the agreement.

But India has not minced its words and making it clear to LTTE that it would not be deterred by such activities and is determined to implement the agreement. It is now up to LTTE to avoid thrusting an unpleasant, but necessary task on IPKF of launching an operation against it.

At the same time, it is for the Jayewardene government to take all precautionary measures to see that the Sinhalese hardliners do not exploit the situation to whip up violence and opposition to the agreement. For such a development would make the task of implementing the agreement that much more difficult.

Pakistani 'Adventurism' in Siachen Criticized

BK071406 Delhi THE HINDUSTAN TIMES in English 1 Oct 87 p 11

[Editorial: "Avoidable Adventurism"]

[Text] The relations between India and Pakistan have been frozen for quite some time. The last time some signs of thaw were noticed was in December 1985 when President Zia and Mr Rajiv Gandhi met in Delhi and agreed to do something to normalise the relations between the two countries and if possible explore the possibility of signing a peace treaty. Even the Prime minister's visit to Pakistan was talked about. That is an old story and the two countries continue to live with little trust and plenty of hostility. The reports from the icy heights around Siachen Glacier only confirm the view that the two neighbours who ought to have lived in pece and essentially strangers at heart.

Available information suggests that Pakistan made repeated attempts from September 23 to 25 perhaps to capture the vital Saltore ridge, a vital feature in the Siachen region. It could have been more than a probing mission judging from the battalion-size force the Pakistanis deployed. The attack was repulsed by the Indian forces mainly because the Indians continue to be on a higher ground as also from the fact that India has been able to strengthen its defences in the region since June 1984 when Pakistan made the first major attempt to dislodge the Indians from the vital area.

Last week's Pakistani attempt shows that India cannot afford to be complacent in the region that is of strategic significance to it. A loss of control of Siachen Glacier would endanger the security of the rest of Ladakh. It also can provide Pakistan a closer link-up with China across the Karakoram range.

This explains New Delhi's decision to use all its might to blunt any Pakistani adventurism in the area. Last week's exchange of fire in which Pakistan suffered a considerable loss of life was, like all such attempts, avoidable if only wiser counsel had prevailed in Islamabad. Perhaps President Zia and his military adviders are again having ideas about Siachen Glacier.

Maybe Benazir Bhutto's taunts that the General has failed to dislodge the Indians from the Glacier are goading him to do funny things, in vain though. All this effort was avoidable if only Pakistan had accepted the Indian plea that the status quo should not be changed in the area by use of force by either side. The Defence Secretaries of the two countries have met twice during the last two years to ensure durable peace in the region but lately there has been no contact at that level.

It will be worthwhile for India and Pakistan to ask their Defence Secretaries to resume their dialogue and ensure that guns do not boom in the area. Pakistan should particularly remember that an attempt to disturb the status quo can go out of hand to nobody's advantage.

Iran

U.S. Warned Against 'Violation' in Gulf

LD080825 Tehran IRNA in English 0820 GMT 8 Oct 87

[Text] Tehran, Oct. 8, IRNA—A U.S. warship attempted in vain to make an Iranian patrol plane to change its route at 10:00 hours local time (06:30 GMT) Wednesday, but the plane successfully carried out its mission.

An informed source at the Iranian Air Force told IRNA here Thursday that unarmed Iranian Air Force planes carry out daily patrol missions over Iranian and international waters in the Persian Gulf to check the movements taking place there.

As part of these routine flights, he added, a mission was carried out over the international waters near Ra's al-Kouh in Jask region Wednesday.

But, he said, a U.S. warship which was present some 22 miles from the region warned the Iranian patrol plane to change route.

This U.S. act according to the military source is against international laws and an open violation of maritime laws.

Meanwhile a spokesman for the War Information Headquarters (WIH) commenting on the incident, described the U.S. action as a dangerous move saying Iran would not tolerate violation of its rights in international waters.

"It is the undeniable right of any country to conduct patrol flights over international waters," the WIH spokesman told IRNA.

The spokesman further warned the U.S. that by embarking on such moves, it was pushing towards a dangerous war—a war which he said could prove more difficult for the Americans than the Vietnam war.

In conclusion, the WIH spokesman warned the U.S. to seriously refrain from repeating such moves.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani on NATO Presence in Gulf

LD071648 Tehran IRNA in English 1624 GMT 7 Oct 87

[Text] Tehran, Oct. 7, IRNA—Belgian Ambassador in Tehran Victor Allard termed the Iraqi regime as the initiator of the war, in his meeting with Majlis Speaker Hojjat ol-Eslam Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani here Wednesday.

On dispatch of Belgian minesweepers to the Persian Gulf, Allard pleaded Iran to consider it as an 'unaggressive' measure and term it as a friendly move. The Belgian ambassador expressed the Brussel government's concern over the existing situation in the Persian Gulf, stressing that Belgium is neutral in the imposed war.

Belgium unconditionally condemns violation of global regulations and conventions including chemical bombardments, attacks on residential areas and civilians planes, as well as international shipping, Allard said.

"We reiterate that Baghdad initiated the war," he said adding "The U.N. secretary general also agrees that Iraq started the war, because it is a plain fact."

In response, Hashemi-Rafsanjani said what the West including Belgium are doing in the Persian Gulf over the recent months is incompatible with their declared intents. The Western countries, by backing an aggressor and a war-mongerer which deserves punishment, have entered a sensitive place pushing the world towards the edge of a catastrophe, said the speaker adding "If it had not been for our patience, the catastrophe might have already occurred." It may happen in future, he noted.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani said the world has found out that Europe lacks an independent character vis-a-vis the U.S., adding "The European countries tamely towed the misconstrued stance of the U.S. Administration." It is a mistake that countries which call themselves independent get entangled in adventurism against their own will, making it dangerous for everyone, stressed the speaker.

The Islamic Republic does its best to prevent a catastrophe in the region, he said, but pressures by the Iranian people as well as the events will exhaust the Islamic Republic's patience.

Pointing to the U.S. adventurism, the speaker said the Americans have attempted to exaggerate mine-laying in the region. "We know the Americans have dropped mines near Khawr Fakkan (U.A.E. coast)," he added. U.S. allegations concerning the Iranian cargo ship *Iran-Ajr* is another proof of Washington's propaganda ballyhoo, he said. The Majlis speaker warned if Iran really decides to sow mines in the Persian Gulf someday, all the world's mine-sweepers can do nothing.

Addressing himself to Western countries, Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani concluded that Saddam will be finally overthrown, NATO forces will surely withdraw from the Persian Gulf and the region albeit disgracefully while leaving the Muslims' heart filled with a world of animosity and hatred against them (Western countries).

On Ties With Brazil

NC080808 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 8 Oct 87

[Text] According to the Central News Unit, Mr Ronald Moraes, the Brazilian ambassador to the Islamic Republic of Iran, has met with Majlis Speaker Hashemi-Rafsanjani and conveyed a message of friendship from the Brazilian people to the Muslim Iranian nation.

Moraes referred to Iran as a regional power and, speaking about Iran's cultural history, said: Brazil has special respect for the Islamic revolution's revival of cultural and moral values. Stressing the importance of cooperation between the two countries in various fields, he alluded to the problems created for the world by capitalist countries and said: These obstacles can be removed by bilateral cooperation. After the victory of the Islamic revolution, Brazil came to the conclusion that political and economic ties should be broadened with Iran. Our cooperation should be active, he added.

In answer to the Brazilian envoy's remarks, Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani said: Prior to the triumph of the Islamic revolution, our desire was to forge ties with countries which do not have any colonialist designs, including Latin American countries. Due to the imposed war, however, many of our aspirations for the period following the Islamic revolution did not materialize.

The speaker of the Islamic Majlis emphasized the importance of cooperation between Third World countries and said: Such cooperation can mitigate attempts to tyrannize the Third World. We do not see any obstacles to our cultural, economic, or political cooperation with you, he added.

Khamene'i Views 'Positive' Japanese Stand

LD071658 Tehran IRNA in English 1635 GMT 7 Oct 87

[Text] Tehran, Oct 7, IRNA—Iranian Ambassador to Tokyo Muhammad-Hoseyn Adeli met President 'Ali Khamene'i here Wednesday.

At the meeting, Adeli pointing to the Japanese stance vis-a-vis the U.N. Security Council resolution and presence of the U.S. fleets in the Persian Gulf considered it in the framework of Tehran-Tokyo friendly relations.

In response, the president said the present bilateral cooperation can be used to promote the interests of the two countries.

Adverting to the developments in the Persian Gulf region, Hojjat ol-Eslam Khamene'i said since the U.S. Administration failed to carry out its objectives in the region despite its wide-scale military presence, it is trying to have other countries involved in the event. In this the U.S. Administration is not only trying to pacify its opponents inside the United States but also giving a share to other countries in its eventual defeat, said the president, terming it as an attempt by the U.S. to shun its political isolation.

The Islamic Republic believes that probable deployment of Japan's financial resources and personnel in the international disputes is not in line with that country's traditional policy, said the president.

Hoj. Khamene'i concluded by terming his talks with Japanese Premier Yasuhiro Nakasone during the U.N. General assembly session as 'fruitful'. He also said Japan's stance vis-a-vis continuation of the U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar's mission as 'positive'.

Meanwhile, Iran's new Ambassador to Vienna Hoseyn Noqrekar Shirazi [name as received] conferred with the president before his departure to Austria, on the same day.

Stressed at the meeting was expansion of Tehran-Vienna relations and cooperation.

Musavi Receives Turkish Official, Warns U.S.

LD080956 Tehran IRNA in English 0940 GMT 8 Oct 87

[Text] Tehran, Oct. 8, IRNA—The U.S. Administration is seeking tension in the Persian Gulf but it should rest assured it will receive a response for every measure it takes against the Islamic Republic, says Prime Minister Hoseyn Musavi.

Speaking in a meeting with the visiting Turkish Deputy Foreign Minister Nuzhet Kandemir here Thursday, the prime minister stressed, America is no one to prevent an Iranian victory. "We are quite prepared to confront a U.S. aggression."

Kandemir handed Musavi a written message from his Turkish counterpart Turgut Ozal and informed the Iranian premier of his country's willingness to help ease the tension in the Persian Gulf.

Kandemir reiterated the Turkish Government's position that foreign powers should withdraw from the Persian Gulf and problem of the region be solved by regional countries.

On security in the Persian Gulf, Musavi said it could be maintained only through neutrality of Persian Gulf states in the Iraqi imposed war.

"In fact," Musavi said, "security in the Persian Gulf is inseparable and attacks on our ships and oil installations will make all oil installations and tankers in the Persian Gulf vulnerable."

Meanwhile, Kandemir conferred with deputy foreign minsiter Mohammad Javad Larijani today and discussed with him important regional issues.

Reiterating that issues of the region should be solved by the regional countries themselves, Kandemir said foreign countries present in the Persian Gulf should not play any role in this connection.

Larijani talked about to Iran's clear stance towards the imposed war, the crisis in the Persian Gulf and Security Council Resolution 598. He also termed measures taken by the U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar as "preliminary steps" for establishment of peace and security in the region.

Cabinet Discusses Gulf War, Mecca 'Martyrs'
LD080528 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 7 Oct 87

[Text] According to a Central News Unit report, first domestic and foreign developments and the Persian Gulf situation were discussed at today's Cabinet session. Then, a report was submitted to the Cabinet on the successful "Zafar-2" operation, staged by the Badr Division in the town of Kifri, in Iraq. Next, a report was submitted by the Ministry of Planning and Budget on the general points of the budget bill for 1988-89.

Finally, the minister of education and Islamic guidance gave a report on the efforts made to take delivery of a number of bodies of martyrs of the bloody Friday in Mecca, which have not yet been handed over by the Hejaz authorities. Some decisions were made on the matter.

Aeroflot To Resume Flights 'Late October'
LD071540 Tehran IRNA in English 1534 GMT 7 Oct 87

[Text] Tehran, Oct. 7, IRNA—The air link between Iran and the Soviet Union is to be resumed in the near future, said an informed source here today.

It added that Iran and the Soviet Union have agreed on resumption of Aeroflot (Soviet airline) flights from Moscow to Tehran, and the flights are to start as of late October.

Tugboat Launched; USSR Shipping Route Set Up
NC071953 Tehran Television Service in Persian 1630 GMT 7 Oct 87

[Text] The first tugboat manufactured in the Islamic Republic of Iran, called the *Val Asr*, was launched during a ceremony in the presence of Mr Sa'idi-Kia, our minister of roads and transport, the managing director of the Ports and Navigation Organization, the Gilan governor general, the Anzali deputy to the Majlis, and several officials of the Ports and Navigation Organization.

A report states that with the manufacture of this tugboat by experts of the Ports and Navigation Organization, the Islamic Republic of Iran has saved $500,000 in foreign exchange. The *Val Asr*, which is 16 meters long and 5 meters wide and weighs 56 tonnes, cost 25 million rials, allocated from the Ports and Navigation Organization's credits. The 600-horsepower tugboat can haul 7.3 tonnes and reach 9.5 knots. The report states that a similar vessel purchased abroad would have cost 75 million rials.

Simultaneously with the launching of the *Val Asr*, the managing director of the Ports and Navigation Organization announced that a shipping route is to be set up between Iran and the Soviet Union in the ports of Anzali, Nowshahr, and Baku and that once this route is established, Iran's imports and exports will be carried by two Iranian cargo ships. He added: Agreement in principle has been reached between Iran and the Soviet Union to establish a shipping route.

Parallel with this program, studies have begun on preliminary steps to set up a boat-building unit in Nowshahr. He said: Once this unit is set up, various types of fishing, service, and cargo ships will be manufactured and offered in the region, and these ships will also be repaired at this unit. Thus, we will be able to stop expending large amounts of foreign exchange each year.

U.S. Economic Embargo Termed 'Ludicrous'
LD071409 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1055 GMT 7 Oct 87

[Station commentary]

[Text] The U.S. Senate yesterday approved a ludicrous motion concerning imposing an economic embargo on Iran. According to news agency reports, a similar motion will be put to vote in the House of Representatives in the near future.

It should be noted that this motion is being adopted at a time when the Reagan administration has concentrated a considerable portion of its military capabilities and equipment as well as those of its European allies in the

Persian Gulf. By exerting pressure on the Islamic Republic of Iran, issuing threats such as an arms embargo, and preventing the entry and exit of Iranian ships, it is additionally strenuously seeking to save the Saddam regime.

All these threats and the baring of its military teeth and claws have accompanied Washington's extensive efforts in the UN Security Council to include punitive measures in Security Council Resolution No 598. This is because Washington is trying to conceal its tyrannical demands and goals with a veneer of international justification in order to minimize pressure from other countries.

Under such conditions, it is necessary from a domestic point of view for members of Congress to somehow demonstrate their support for the Reagan administration's policies. By adopting such policies, they think that in addition to reducing probable dangers, they also reinforce the support given by Washington's European allies.

When the repeated and widespread warnings from Washington's allies proved fruitless in preventing support for Kuwaiti ships, a large section of those opposed to Reagan—despite the fact that they still continued to hold their former views—generally came to believe that once the United States entered the Persian Gulf, and in view of the dangers that face Washington—such as being involved in clashes with the Islamic Republic of Iran—a demonstration of solidarity and a show of unity with the Reagan administration would serve a more useful role in safeguarding the United States' general interests in the region.

Just before the plan to provide support for Kuwaiti vessels was implemented, and in view of the fruitlessness of the warnings by those opposed to this plan, the leader of the Senate Democratic majority announced: We expressed our views and conveyed the message, and we showed that the majority of senators oppose the plan to provide an escort for Kuwaiti vessels. However, the time has now come for us to attend to other matters.

On the very day these views were expressed by the leader of the Democrats' Senate majority, following an unsuccessful effort to approve a motion postponing the plan to provide support for Kuwaiti vessels, the Senate announced in a motion that a deliberate attack by any country against ships sailing under the U.S. flag would lead to a total break in commercial relations between the United States and that nation.

The fact that this Senate motion was approved at a time when U.S. senators were deeply worried about the consequences of Reagan's policies shows that this was a futile attempt to demonstrate practical solidarity with the Reagan admininstration, in order to minimize the chance of probable attacks on U.S. forces.

In these conditions, following the U.S. attack on the *Iran-Ajr* and the certainty of Iranian retaliation, the U.S. Senate is attempting to repeat its ludicruous threat in a more definite form by expressing support for the Reagan administration. It is as though the U.S. senators do not know that for many years, following the conquest of the den of espionage, the Islamic Republic's decisiveness and steadfastness have proven the ineffectiveness of an economic embargo by the Arch Satan.

Since Washingtdon has clearly experienced the ineffectiveness of an economic embargo against Iran during the past few years, what is the point of threatening another embargo? And especially in the case of oil, which has been the subject of U.S. officials' greatest amount of discussion and hue and cry, Iran has not had any direct sale of this item to the United States.

In this case, it appears that the U.S. Senate is seeking to drag the United States' European allies in the same direction by means of this action. However, they should know that for a country that is able to maintain its decisiveness and resilience in confronting world arrogance with sales of 200,000-300,000 barrels of oil, this threat by the U.S. Congress—whatever its aim—will not have the slightest negative effect upon the Islamic revolution's firm determination and uncompromising stance.

Certainly, in view of the above-stated facts, this move by these U.S. senators—apart from its propagandistic aim of distorting the Islamic revolution's true features—is, in fact, a ludicrous move: At a time when the U.S. ruling circles are concerned about retaliatory actions by the Islamic Republic of Iran, they [European allies] are trying to make a show of superficial solidarity in their support for the U.S. military forces in the Persian Gulf.

However, the harsh and unpleasant consequences of this dangerous adventurism, after crushing the arch satan's military forces, will be that the U.S. politicians' seemingly unified ranks will once again be smashed with a similar power and strength.

Logistics of Long-Term U.S. Presence Viewed

LD060952 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0740 GMT 6 Oct 87

[From the "Sacred Defense" program]

[Text] Let us take the opportunity today to review Persian Gulf developments once more. The entire world knows that the presence of U.S. forces in this region is to protect the Ba'thist regime which is in grave danger. It is interesting to note that even the United States itself does not deny this fact, albeit they refer to it as safeguarding their interests which are threatend in the region.

The other point that everyone admits is the resistance of the Iranian people. That is, the entire people of the world and even the U.S. authorities admit that these threats

cannot intimidate the nation of Iran; and not only will the people not surrender to such pressure, but also they will become more committed to the just cause of this struggle.

The next point that should be noted is the cooperation and collaboration of the Western governments in this conspiracy. All but one or two Western countries have openly agreed to invest in this plan [of sending ships to the Persian Gulf], whereas the Eastern bloc governments have refrained from doing so. This, therefore, proves the wisdom or negligence of various governments vis-a-vis the grave danger posed against the world by the presence of the U.S. forces in the region.

The most important point in this affair is the weakness of the arch satan in this conspiracy. Naturally, the vast shallow waters of the Persian Gulf restrict the U.S. forces maneuverability. In fact this is the worst place for the Yankees' long and bulky warships. In addition to that, the United States is becoming entangled in a war thousands of kilometers from its borders. It is quite obvious that this problem will create countless difficulties for the United States.

At present, about 50,000 U.S. soldiers are concentrated in various areas of the region. Apart from the equipment that these troops require, their feeding alone will be a problem. All of them need to eat and drink. How can the United States supply these needs for an unlimited period, which might even be years?

Even the Yankees themselves realize that they cannot count on the support of the regional governments. For one reason, these governments are frightened of their Muslim people and, therefore, cannot openly join a U.S. front on the war against the Islamic revolution. Secondly, these countries do not even have enough drinking water for themselves. This can be understood better by seeing a constant traffic of ships delivering bottled French mineral water to Saudi Arabia. As one of our proverbs says: The blind cannot lead the blind

The practical solution for Mr Reagan would be to mobilize more ships to supply the water, food, fruit, and, of course, the narcotics requirements of the U.S. troops stationed in the region. In view of the budget deficit facing the government of his mightiness, and in view of the fact that should a war start these delivery ships themselves would become sitting ducks for our boys to shoot, how can the United States cope? How can it make up for this shortcoming? I suppose it would dispatch more warships to protect these supply ships.

Well, dear listeners, surely you have guessed how the story ends. Yes, the above review leads us to the conclusion that there is no need for us to extract the teeth of the U.S. tiger, because this tiger has no teeth to start with.

Slogans Warn U.S. Over Gulf Presence

NC061438

[Editorial Report] Tehran Domestic Service in Persian at 0500 GMT on 6 October, during its 3-hour "Voice of the Front" feature, carries the following slogans, interspersed with music:

"The heroic Iranian nation should prepare itself to confront criminal America." "O Imam: We, the wayfarers of the Persian Gulf, repeat that we will fill the blue waters of the region with corpses of American sailors." "O Imam: We cannot tolerate the filthy presence of arrogance in our home. We cannot witness the sacrilege and disrespect of Americans committed against our holy and Islamic Iran. We are impatiently awaiting orders from our officials and are ready to achieve the lofty goal of martyrdom. We will fill the Persian Gulf with the blood of American sailors." "We call on the zealous and Muslim youths of the country to rise and resist American bullying with all their might, take up arms, and avenge all the oppressive, hegemonistic, and corrupt ills created by the great satan. Youths, rise!"

"The Persian Gulf is the scene of the heroic war by our brave basiji fighters against criminal America. Each Muslim should take up arms and hasten to the Persian Gulf to defend the religion and respect of the revolution and of Islam. This is the scene of the just and of the evil, and we are victors because we are just." "We are present in the Persian Gulf, and the basiji, the Armed Forces, and the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps heroes will once again show the world of arrogance the extent of the power of Islam and the Islamic Revolution. O arrogance of the East and West: See how the heroes of Islamic Iran are creating epics in the blue waters of the Persian Gulf." "O Criminal America: Awaiting you are the dreadful waves of the Persian Gulf, raging amid the cries of 'God is great' by the basijis who defend it. O Criminal American Soldiers: Know that the divine and strong bullets of our fighters are aimed at your disgraceful and wretched hearts. The Persian Gulf is your grave. It is the stronghold of the brave men of the forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran."

"From the beginning of the war, America's concern could be felt. Its leaders considered Iraq's defeat the greatest danger to Persian Gulf stability. From the very beginning they intended to make their support for Iraq overt. Thus, they lay in wait to establish their military presence in the war in support for Iraq, until once again the Persian Gulf became a pretext. The concern felt by Iraq and the defeat it suffered strengthened this pretext, and the presence of the supercriminal became overt. But once again they entertained futile ideas and great expectations, as in the past when they dreamed of separating Khuzestan from the Islamic homeland. But America and all its mercenaries should know that the Persian Gulf, like the fronts on land, is a front that will become the enemy's graveyard." "O World: See our victory! O World: See our glory! We are the worthy successors of

Imam Husayn. We are the followers of Khomeyni. Hesitation is shameful for us. Peace and compromise mean abjectness because we are the offspring of the apogees of each epic. O World: See what epic we will create in the Persian Gulf."

"We disavow pagans, but this time it will not be from a position of oppression, not from the bondage of the mercenaries of arrogance, and not under suppression in the city of divine sanctity. This time this disavowal will be in the waters of the Persian Gulf and on the coasts of the clear waters of our freedom, inspired by the blood shed by the martyred pilgrims and by the message of the leadership. This time our disavowal of the pagans will be in the Persian Gulf." "O Imam: We are your children. Rest assured that we will continue our war and struggle until we have avenged all the unjust blood shed by the criminal bloodsuckers of world arrogance. We are the sharks of the Persian Gulf, and we will call on the world to see the epic we will create. We will prove once again that the Persian Gulf is the graveyard of the American sailors."

Tehran Comments on Security Council Debate
LD061346 Tehran Domestic Service inPersian1113 GMT 6 Oct 87

[Political commentary: "Differences of Opinion in the Security Council Regarding the Persian Gulf"]

[Text] Along with recent developments in the battlefronts, particularly after the "Zafar-2" operations and the firing of a ground-to-ground missiles at military targets in Baghdad, it has been reported that gradual changes have taken place in the positions of some Security Council members.

Sources close to the Security Council say that, at the moment, the Council is engaged in secret discussions regarding Iran's conditions for implementing Resolution No 598. However, the differences are still so profound that it does not seem likely the Security Council will be able to issue in the near future a resolution constituting a unified position.

In the past, the Security Council was able to unanimously approve Resolution No 598. However, now the Iranian conditions and recent developments in the Persian Gulf have turned this unanimity into discord. According to these sources, the present differences of opinion are caused by Iran's conditions for implementing Resolution No 598, and also by the problems resulting from the the large-scale Western military presence, led by the U.S. fleet.

On the one hand, the U.S. Government, by frightening its allies in the region and by exaggerating the Iranian danger, is trying to prepare the ground for permanently stationing its forces in the Gulf region, in addition to creating tension. On the other hand, the Soviet Union has seriously demanded the withdrawal of foreign fleets from the region. Petrovskiy, the Soviet deputy foreign minister, has said that the military presence of Western governments in the Persian Gulf is unprecedented and creates a very dangerous situation.

While stressing that the majority of the Security Council members are suffering from indecision, he added that it is necessary for the military commanders of the five permanent members of the Security Council to start discussions about withdrawing foreign warships from the Persian Gulf.

Political observers believe that, in view of extensive U.S. propaganda designed to deceive the public about the need for a military presence in the Persian Gulf, the recent Soviet proposal will be rejected by Washington and its European allies in the Security Council. In the past, during the annual meeting of the UN General Assembly, the Soviet foreign minister proposed that an international force be formed to protect shipping in the Persian Gulf. That proposal was immediately rejected by the United States through its secretary of state, George Shultz. He clearly stated: We do not wish to leave the Persian Gulf. We have interests there and we wish to defend our interests as well as our friends in the region.

Meanwhile, political circles believe that the U.S. Government still faces many obstacles in its desire to impose on the rest of the Security Council members a plan to punish Iran. So far, it has been unsuccessful in its attempts. Although in a propaganda gesture, George Shultz claimed that China and the Soviet Union agree in principle with the imposition of sanctions and punishments on Iran, he still admitted that there are many differences of opinion on this issue.

On the other hand, Western public opinion is now faced with the question of whether or not a political solution can be found in order to end the crisis in the Persian Gulf, and, in that case, would it be necessary for the United States and other Western governments to maintain such an extensive military presence there and endanger the lives of their soldiers. These questions are being seriously asked in the U.S. Congress and in political and military circles in that country. Even General Haig, the former U.S. secretary of state, who himself was a victim of Washington's policies toward the Middle East, has said: The United States should not get involved in clashes with Iran, because the Iranians are very capable of carrying out operations.

In any case, new stances in public opinion, as well as America's blind obstinacy in the Security Council, are putting greater pressure on the Reagan administration. Moreover, it seems that the threatening behavior of the U.S. and French warships in the Persian Gulf during the past 2 days—in addition to providing the Iraqi regime with intelligence assistance to attack Iranian oil installations in the Persian Gulf—underscore America's hasty reactions in order to create new problems. By means of

greater tension and pressure on Iran, America believes it can save itself and the Iraqi regime from ever- increasing isolation and condemnation.

Kuwait Cited on Islamic Revolution in Africa

NC080913 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 8 Oct 87

[Text] In its latest edition, the weekly *Al-Mujtama'*, published in Kuwait, has issued a warning to the heads of the reactionary Arab regimes about the danger of the spread of the Islamic revolution in Africa. According to IRNA, in its latest edition *Al-Mujtama'* carries an editorial describing the Islamic Republic of Iran's measures to open high schools in various countries on the African Continent as a major danger to reactionary Arab regimes.

The paper says: The affluent Arab countries should immediately take steps to combat the activities of the Islamic Republic of Iran on the African Continent. The weekly states: The GCC countries should mobilize their vast financial resources and spend large sums of money in Africa to prevent Iran from attracting Muslim youth.

This weekly, which is an unofficial mouthpiece of the courtier type of cleric, adds in its editorial: African youths studying in Iran will return to their countries after completing their academic courses and will disseminate the ideas and beliefs of the Islamic revolution in their own countries. In conclusion *Al-Mujtama'* stresses: The objective of this Iranian plan is to export the Islamic revolution to other countries.

Combat Operations Against Iraq Continue

Rafiqdust on Missile Capability

LD061650 Tehran IRNA in English 1605 GMT 6 Oct 87

[Text] Tehran, Oct. 6, IRNA—Iran has greatly enhanced its capability in the field of surface-to-surface missiles and if the Iraqi regime continues its acts of mischief it will receive more crushing blows, said minister of the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps (IRGC) Mohsen Rafiqdust.

Rafiqdust made the assertion in a telephone interview in the Tuesday issue of the Persian Daily *Keyhan* here.

Asked about Iran's missile attack on the training center of Iraqi Republican Guards Monday night, Rafiqdust said Iran's retaliatory attacks this time will not be limited to a solitary missile on Baghdad or other Iraqi cites every few days. Iran's military power has considerably increased in all fields and the IRGC is ready to target economic and military centers throughout Iraq with surface-to-surface missiles at the center of the War Command, he stressed.

The minister once again challenged the Iraqi regime to mainly fight the Iranian combatants in war fronts instead of killing innocent civilians by its dastardly attacks.

Referring to the presence of the U.S. and its allies in the Persian Gulf, Rafiqdust said we have no fear of NATO forces in the region since their presence with the U.S. in vanguard is vainly aimed at bending our firm resolve to continue the war until the Iraqi regime is toppled.

However, he added, an enemy is an enemy for us and any power [who] wants to face the Islamic Republic will be given an appropriate response. "U.S. attack on Iranian cargo ship *Iran-Ajr* will not go unanswered," he reiterated.

Furthermore, Rafiqdust noted that Iran does not rely on foreign sources for military equipment and said that a plan for manufacturing a sophisticated kind of missile has been studied and will enter production phase once approved.

Anyone who backs Saddam (Iraqi ruler) will be considered by Iran as an enemy he warned, recalling Majlis Speaker Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani's statement "our patience is limited".

Communique No 2,982

LD071646 Tehran IRNA in English 1637 GMT 7 Oct 87

[Text] Tehran, Oct. 7, IRNA—Iran's naval forces searched nine cargo ships and tankers in Hormuz Strait over the past 24 hours, but allowed them to sail since no suspicious cargo was found on board, the 2982nd Joint Staff Communique reported here today.

It said artillery and tank fire of Iranian Muslim combatants on Iraqi positions throughout war fronts silenced enemy fire inflicting considerable losses and casualties on them.

An Iraqi patrol unit came under Iranian artillery fire in Kelaleh operational region Tuesday night, and was forced to flee from the area sustaining some casualties.

Enemy movements in Hajj 'Umran theater were shelled by Iranian forces Tuesday in which Iraqi troops sustained casualties and losses. Several Iraqi engineering vehicles were also damaged seriously in Panjwin operational region.

Muslim forces halted operations of an Iraqi tank unit on operational axes of Fakkeh and Yabis, destroying some enemy tanks.

At least 10 gun emplacements, an anti-aircraft position and three light and heavy vehicles of Iraqi troops were destroyed and several soldiers were killed when their positions and strongholds were targeted by Iranian Gendarmerie forces.

Iraqi warplanes bombed the western city of Ilam on Tuesday afternoon damaging some houses. A civilian was martyred and a group of others were wounded in this fresh Iraqi crime, concluded the communique.

Aircraft Attack Ilam Schools

LD071709 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 7 Oct 87

[Text] In continuation of the Iraqi rulers audacious behavior in attacking civilian regions, aircraft of the aggressor Iraqi regime this afternoon targeted a secondary school and a guidance school in Ilam.

As a result of the enemy's wickedness today in attacking urban regions of Ilam, one of our compatriots was martyred and several others were wounded. According to this report, considerable damage wase inflicted on these two educational institutions. Several residential units were also damaged.

48 Killed in 'Zafar-2' Theater

LD071743 Tehran IRNA in English 1730 GMT 7 Oct 87

[Text] Bakhtaran, Oct. 7, IRNA—Some 48 more Iraqi troops were killed and wounded in the Zafar 2 operational theatre, northeastern Iraq, Tuesday bringing the number of Iraqi troops killed so far to 848.

The victorious Zafar 2 operation was launched by Badr Division 9 of Iraqi mujahidin Sunday in the town of Kifri 70 kms deep inside Iraq.

Sporadic clashes between Iraqi mujahidin and Jeish ul-Sha'bi (the so-called) popular forces of the Iraqi regime continued in the Kifri operational region Tuesday during which three tanks, two personnel carriers, a supply bridge, two trucks, and three bulldozers of the Iraqi forces were destroyed.

Meanwhile, in Sulaymaniyah region of Iraq, Kurdish peshmergas launched three ambushes killing 12 Iraqi soldiers and security agents over the past 24 hours, said Ramadhan headquarters.

Volunteers Leave for Front

NC080746 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 8 Oct 87

[Text] According to the Central News Unit, in conjunction with the departure of the epicmakers of 'Ashura from all over our Islamic country to the fronts of battle with the Zionist enemy, the second convoy of the epicmakers of 'Ashura, comprising combat specialist forces, left Lorestan Province yesterday afternoon for the fronts of right versus wrong.

The convoy combatants, who are mobilization combatants from the cities of Khorramabad, Borujerd, and 'Aligudarz, the districts of Kuhdasht, Eznav, Dorud, Pol-e Dokhtar, Nurabad, Alashtar, (Chegineh), Baqal, (Beheshtiyan), Chaqalvandi, and rural settlements, congregated at one of the Khorramabad garrisons and left for the fronts of right versus wrong amid ceremonies.

In addition, groups of combat specialist forces left from Mazandaran for the war frontiers of our Islamic country.

Pakistan

Ziaul Haq on Foreign Affairs, Atomic Bomb

JN030811 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 3 Oct 87 p 19

[Interview with President Mohammad Ziaul Haq by Ibrahim Sakkijha, editor in chief of *Al-Dustur*, date, place not given]

[Text] *Al-Dustur*: As a Jordanian citizen, I am pleased to welcome your forthcoming visit to Jordan. How do you assess the friendly relations between Jordan and Pakistan?

The president: Thank you for your welcome. I view Jordan as my second homeland. I have greaat love for it. I am delighted to be visiting Jordan. I am also pleased to receive my Jordanian brothers in Pakistan.

Relations between our two countries are rooted in our common faith, traditions, and history. They are not merely relations of friendship; they are also fraternal relations. Our traditional ties have been strengthened by commonly held views on regional and world affairs.

These views stem from our adherence to our principles and from the close friendship and cooperation between Pakistan and Jordan. This friendship and cooperation aim to serve the interests of the two countries and contribute to the establishment of peace and stability in the region.

Al-Dustur: There are several hot issues on the world scene. However, the Iran-Iraq war continues to be the flashpoint the world fears will turn into a raging fire. What is Pakistan's position on the war, and what is your excellency's view on resolving the conflict?

The president: The tragic conflict between Iran and Iraq is one of the major dilemmas facing the world. The Muslim nation suffers greatly from this conflict. From the very first days of the war, I personally contacted

officials of both countries in an effort to end the fratricide. As a member of the Islamic Peace Committee, my country played an active role in searching for a peaceful solution to the conflict.

In the course of our contacts with both countries, we advised them to exercise self-restraint and to resolve the problem quickly. We also supported international efforts to find a just and peaceful settlement to the tragic conflict.

The war has lasted 7 years or more. It has caused great losses in life and property, and has threatened to expand beyond the two countries.

We hope and pray that the joint efforts of the international community will succeed in finding a solution acceptable to both belligerents. We are still prepared to contribute all that we can to end the war—a war that has greatly pained all those who want cohesion among Muslim states.

Al-Dustur: Relations between Pakistan and the United States are good. What are the chances that these relations can be used to improve the prospects of establishing peace in the Arabian Gulf?

The president: It is true that relations between Pakistan and the United States are good. However, it is not correct to say that the interests of the two countries and their views on the problems in the Gulf are similar. I do not see great possibilities for a joint initiative by the two countries to search for a peaceful settlement of the war.

Pakistan for its part had tried to defuse the tension and to give the peace efforts a chance. Toward this end, Pakistan advised both countries to be cautious and to exercise self-restraint, and advised all parties involved in the Gulf sitaution.

We support all serious efforts to end the war. We greatly hope that the ICO's initiatives will be successful. The ICO's most important objective is to end the conflict as soon as possible. We are ready to do anything that will yield results.

Al-Dustur: Pakistan and Iran share a long border. Do you think this could have an effect on Pakistani-Iranian relations? What is its effect on the region, and what are its possible effects on the Iran-Iraq war in particular?

The president: Pakistan and Iran share a long border and maintain fraternal and good-neighborly relations. A country's geography and border create special relations with neighboring countries—relations can be hostile or friendly. We are fortunate that the presence of a common border between Pakistan and Iran has contributed to the establishment of friendship and cooperation which have brought stability to the region.

Our proximity to the Iran-Iraq war has made us appreciate the tragic results of the war and has strengthened our belief in the need to end the war quickly.

Although we maintain neutrality toward both countries, we shall continue our efforts to give impetus to peace in the region in order to find a peaceful settlement of the conflict between the two warring neighbors.

Al-Dustur: Although the Iran-Iraq war is overshadowing other issues, the Palestinian question and its ramifications are still a flashpoint that could cause an explosion. What is your view of the ideas proposed in connection with the Palestinian question?

The president: I agree that there are major political problems in our area in addition to the Iran-Iraq conflict. These include the Palestinian question which has existed for some time, and more recently, the Afghan question.

Pakistan has always supported the Palestinian question and Arab causes. Pakistan is still committed to restoring rights and land to our Palestinian Arab brothers. We believe that a lasting settlement of the Middle East problem and the establishment of peace in the region cannot be achieved without the return of all the Arab territory occupied by Israel since 1967 and by giving the Palestinians the right to self-determination.

Consequently, we support the convening of an international conference on the Middle East in which all the parties concerned, including the PLO—the representative of the Palestinains—participate on an equal footing with other parties.

The longstanding crisis in the Middle East may not cause a world war, but on two previous occasions it brought the world to the brink of such a war. It has brought instablity to international relations throughout the past 40 years.

In order to achieve peace and stability in the Middle East and international security in general, a just settlement of the Palestinian question continues to be necessary and inevitable.

Al-Dustur: How do you think the Afghan problem and the problem of Afghan refugess in Pakistan can be solved?

The president: The Afghan problem and all its ramifications, including the Afghan refugee problem, were caused by Soviet military intervention in Afghanistan. A solution would therefore hinge on Soviet withdrawal from the country. For 8 years the heroic Afghan resistance has withstood the attempts of a superpower to subjugate Afghanistan, indicating that there can be no military solution to the problem.

For its part, Pakistan has urged a just, permanent settlement as recommended by UN resolutions, the ICO, and the Nonaligned Movement, all of which advocated a

Soviet withdrawal; the return of Afghanistan to its status as an independent, nonaligned country; the right of the Afghan people to choose their government; and the repatriation of Afghan refugees.

Pakistan has done its part toward realizing these goals through the UN-sponsored indirect talks. Our cooperation and flexibility have made it possible to work out three blueprints for a solution. The only outstanding issue is to set the date for the Soviet withdrawal from Afghanistan. Fixing the date would be determined by logistics. In any case, once a decision to pull out is made, withdrawal could take place in months rather than years. There is no reason why this should take too long. The proposed settlement would have to meet Soviet approval of the withdrawal timetable acceptable to us, or, more accurately to the Afghan mujahidin.

Pakistan has accommodated Afghan refugees despite the fact there are over 3 million of them. They represent the highest refugee concentration in the world. This is due to our Islamic and humanitarian commitments. These refugees were forced to evacuate their homes as a consequence of foreign occupation of their country and Soviet arbitrariness. Although their seeking refuge in Pakistan has stretched our resources, we will continue to fulfill our responsibilities until a repatriation settlement is worked out.

Al-Dustur: Pakistan is said to be in possession of what has come be known as the Islamic bomb. What is your response to that? How far has advanced research in nuclear technology in Pakistan gone, and what positive effects has that had on other Muslim nations?

The president: The bogey of "the Islamic bomb" was made up in countries that mean harm to Islam and Pakistan. We expect our friends, especially in the Muslim world, to realize the diabolical ends of such harmful terms, and to refrain from using them in their newspapers and other media. Pakistan's modest program is for peaceful purposes. We have neither the intention nor the capability to produce a nuclear weapon.

It is common knowledge that no one country, region, or people can monpolize technology. The importance of international cooperation in the use of nuclear technology especially, in the socio-economic advancement of developing countries, is recognized by the United Nations.

After India's nuclear explosion in May 1974, all outside assistance to the nuclear facility in Karachi was suspended. It is known that the facility is subject to the supervision of the International Atomic Energy Agency. Therefore, Pakistan has had to depend on itself to develop nuclear technology for peaceful uses. Thanks to our scientists and technicians, we managed to run our nuclear plants successfully, something the Pakistani people take pride in. Our technology has no military dimension. We still stand for nonproliferation of nuclear arms in our region and for global nuclear disarmament.

Al-Dustur: If, under any circumstances, Pakistan produces this bomb, would it be used to liberate Jerusalem?

The president: There is no need to use a bomb to liberate Jerusalem. We should be unified. Islamic unity is very important at the present time. Arab unity in particular is also important. If Arab and Islamic unity is achieved, the liberation of the holy mosque and Jerusalem will become a reality.

The issue is not Palestinian, it is Islamic. All efforts should converge to liberate the holy places. We consider Jordan now at the forefront of confrontation with the Israeli enemy. We should give sister Jordan all help and assistance to confront Israel in terms of combat, morale, and diplomacy. In order to liberate the holy places, all countries on the front line, led by Jordan, Syria, Lebanon, and Egypt, should cooperate. We will support them all.

We know that Israel possesses a bomb. However, we have stated many times that we do not possess a bomb. We do not want to turn our preparations to have a bomb into an objective. Rumors all over the world say Pakistan possesses a nuclear bomb. Let them think so.

They will never leave the Arab countries alone. We know that the Israelis control the media. They fear the Arabs because they know that the Muslims emerged from the Arabs and reached Spain and Indonesia. They fear the strength of Islam and Muslim unity. If we establish a security, not a military front, if we unite our ranks, we will liberate the holy places and all Arab and Islamic territory.

Al-Dustur: Your Excellency, you are the chairman of the ICO Science and Technology Committee. It is clear that there is a big gap between the Muslims and the progressive industrial world. What is your view on this issue?

The president: We are very concerned about this big gap between the Islamic world and the progressive industrial world. The other Islamic countries are also worried about this. Undoubtedly, the formation of the Science and Technology Commmittee affiliated with the ICO reflects this concern.

The Islamic countries have gradually realized that they cannot achieve their hopes of progress and prosperity without attaining progress in science and technology. Therefore, the Islamic countries shouldered the responsibility of using their resources and potential to achieve this objective. These countries must also double their common cooperation and exchange experiences in order to achieve this objective. The advanced countries avoid transferring technology to Third World countries.

Therefore, we would like to share our resources and efforts in the field of science and technology with the developing countries in particular. Our direct goal is self-reliance. If we recall the high position which our scientists and thinkers reached in the golden Islamic age, we believe that we can be among the top nations in science, technology, and other fields.

Al-Dustur: The move to civil rule in Pakistan is known. How does Your Excellency view the completion of th democratic march in Pakistan?

The president: The best thing is that the move to parliamentary rule took place in a unique way. With God's grace, we were able to lift martial law and the emergency law which were in force in Pakistan throughout the past 20 years. The Pakistani people today enjoy all basic rights. The judicial authorities and the press enjoy complete freedom. We also have a sovereign, elected parliament that tackles all problems and national policies. Our objective is the same as the people's; namely, to continue the democratic process in a disciplined way.

The government has announced that the elections to local councils will take place at the end of this year. General elections will take place in 1990. During this period, the elected government will implement its program to improve the people's standard of living. We are confident that the election process will enable the democratic institutions in the country to spread their roots in Pakistan.

Al-Dustur: The two superpowers, the United States and the Soviet Union, have reached agreement in principle on dismantling intermediate-range missiles in Europe. What is your comment, and what in your view is the effect of such an agreement on the future of world peace, particularly in southeast Asia and the Middle East?

The president: The two superpowers possess 95 percent of all nuclear warheads. Such nuclear weapons could completely destroy our planet. Consequently, the two superpowers bear the heavy responsibility of adopting the necessary measures to halt the arms race and to bring about permanent and total disarmament. We welcome the recently concluded agreement on the dismantling of short- and intermediate-range missiles in Europe. We also laud the decision of the two superpowers to continue negotiations on banning nuclear tests and reducing the number of strategic nuclear missiles.

The agreement on the removal of intermediate-range missiles is an important step in the efforts to reduce and end the threat to mankind posed by the continued presence of nuclear weapons. We welcome this great step. In view of the fact that the two superpowers have a great nuclear arsenal, there is a pressing need to follow up the agreement so that agreement can be reached on eliminating all nuclear weapons.

As you know, the questions of peace, security, disarmament, and development are interwoven. We hope that disarmament agreements between the two superpowers will bring about regional and international peace and security.

As you know, the two superpowers on the one hand and the small, nonaligned countries on the other are unevenly matched. We believe it is necessary to give a security guarantee to the nonaligned, developing countries. Consequently, Pakistan prefers to rely on a regional approach based on building trust and achieving security and disarmament in various regions. We have advocated the adoption of such an approach with regard to security, disarmament, and development in each region separately.

We also welcome the Soviet Union's decision to dismantle intermediate-range missiles in Asia. We share Gorbachev's view on the need to have a world free of nuclear weapons, and we want such a vision to turn into reality. We hope that the agreement on the removal of intermediate-range nuclear missiles will be reinforced and detente will be resumed. We hope that detente will have a positive effect on ending regional tension and conflicts in various parts of the world, including the Middle East and South Asia.

The resolution of regional issues is easier if such issues are separated from superpower rivalry. In order to achieve permanent peace and bring about conditions favorable for economic and social development, we need a world based more on principles than on the threat of force.

Al-Dustur: On the eve of the fraternal visit of President Mohammad Ziaul Haq to Jordan, is there anything you wish to say to the Jordanian people?

The president: My message to my Jordanian brothers is that the Pakistani people harbor great respect and appreciation for you. We are proud of your friendship and your support for us in times of peace and war. We admire your courage in confronting the external challenges posed by a neighbor known for its aggression and expansionism.

The Pakistani people and government have supported you in times of crises, and will continue their support for your struggle to regain your usurped territory.

The fraternal ties that bind our two peoples and countries are founded upon the common ideology of Islam, culture, traditions, and interests. These ties have stood firm through the passage of time, and will continue to be firm for they are not confined to common interests but encompass Islamic cohesion and peace in the region and in the world at large.

The Pakistani Government and people follow with pride the progress attained by the fraternal Jordanian people under the leadership of His Majesty King Husayn, and wish them continued progress and prosperity.

Al-Dustur: Thank you, Mr President.

The president: Thank you and peace be upon you.

Sri Lanka

Jayewardene Claims 'Linkage' of JVP, LTTE

BK081243 Colombo LANKA PUWATH in English 1223 GMT 8 Oct 87

["OANA/pool" item]

[Text] Colombo, Oct 8 (*Lanka Puwath*)—Sri Lankan President J. R. Jayewardene told the Government Parliamentary Group today that there was conclusive evidence to show that there was a linkage between the LTTE and JVP [Jatika Vimukthi Peramuna] groups to cause mass destruction of Sinhala people in order to obstruct the implementation of the Indo-Sri Lanka peace accord.

The president dwelt at length on the situation in the Northern and Eastern Provinces and the events which led to the signing of the peace accord and thereafter, states a press release issued by the office of the chief government whip.

He said: "The LTTE-JVP combinations have commenced a new operation against the Sri Lanka Government and the Sinhala people. During the course of the first few months of 1987, their plan was to intensify the terrorist campaign in the north and east, and to tie up the Sri Lanka security services in combatting it. The big push in the north by the security forces in these months brought a number of victories but they were unable to take over Jaffna.

"The Tamil Nadu Government was prepared to help the LTTE to prevent the taking over of Jaffna town, and they did so. The JVP plan in the south was to wait till the Sri Lanka forces were embedded in the north to start their violent activities and later spread it all over the country. Suddenly the whole situation changed by the signing of the peace accord between India and Sri Lanka in July 1987. "In a few weeks terrorism in the north and east came to a halt, and the Sri Lanka Government was able to bring a large number of security personnel from the north to the south to combat JVP attacks. They retaliated by direct attacks on members of the government and party. Acts of terrorism which were never experienced in the south after 1971 were happening daily.

"However, the implementation of the accord with regard to the surrender of arms was delayed on the Indian side, because they were reluctant to have an open clash with the LTTE for fear of harm to civilians. This should have been accomplished by the middle of August but it has not yet been accomplished even after two months.

"Till the end of September, India tried to persuade Prabhakaran to get his permission to accept the accord and join the interim administration. Within a few hours he broke his promise and instead started attacking innocent people in Trincomalee town and district. In the first few days of October this new campaign they started against the Sinhalese was to disrupt the government and to prevent the implementation of the accord by disarming the terrorist groups.

"The Indian Government must therefore implement their part of the accord, viz:

—A complete disarming of the LTTE and other terrorist groups in the east;

—Return to elections in the north and the east;

—The maintenance of law and order and the cessation of hostilities in the north and east;

This would mean that the Sri Lanka Government can use its full force against the JVP in the south and intensify its campaign there.

"These are some of the facts that the peace-loving people of Sri Lanka should ponder about. One of the democratic political parties in the south is still trying to criticise the government and also support the JVP. These tactics only help the LTTE Tamil terrorists."

The trade union leaders and the older left parties have grasped the situation and while not thinking of political advantage are fully supporting the implementation of the accord. The task before us is now not to criticise the accord and thus help the LTTE and JVP.

President Jayewardene further said that he was in touch with the Indian prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, over the recent incidents and escalation of violence in the Northern and Eastern Provinces and the Indian troops will within the next 24 hours take strong measures, going into the terrorist areas, taking over of arms in the custody of terrorists, and even to the extent of taking terrorists into custody.

The president said that India now views the LTTE and its leaders not only working against the Sri Lankan Government but also against the Indian Government. Mr Jayewardene said that the Indian defence minister and the Indian Army commander will be arriving soon in Sri Lanka to coordinate the activities of the Indian troops in these joint operations.

The president recalled that during the 1971 insurrection he, as leader of the opposition, and the UNP [United National Party] gave their fullest support to Mrs Bandaranaike's government to quell the insurrection and to save democracy by preventing the overthrow of a government elected by the people.

But the present attitude of the SLFP [Sri Lanka Freedom Party] leaders in having clandestine contacts with the proscribed JVP and speaking in a manner to provoke the people gave the impression that they have no concern for loss of life of human lives, be they Sinhala, Tamils or Moslems.

Security Plan Implemented in Eastern Province
BK080928 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0830 GMT 8 Oct 87

[Text) In Sri Lanka, a new operation plan has been implemented to check violence in the Eastern Province. The plan has been finalized after high-level consultations between the governments of the two countries.

An official spokesman of the Sri Lankan Government told newsmen this afternoon that the plan includes setting up of new checkpoints, increase of mobile patrols, and shoot-at-orders on miscreants and law breakers.

Meanwhile, the chief of the Army staff, General Surderji, today visited the north and east of Sri Lanka to assess the situation there. He will report back to the Sri Lankan president, Mr Jayewardene, and the prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi. President Jayewardene is in constant touch with Mr Gandhi on the situation in the island.

Our Colombo correspondent, Plabon Majumder, quoting an official spokesman says that the four Rupavahini [Sri Lankan television service] employees kidnapped earlier are believed to have been killed. He could not either confirm or deny the report that the LTTE leader, Mr Prabhakaran, has been arrested.

Six Sri Lankan soldiers died in a landmine blast this morning in Trincomalee and Mannar. One civilian was killed when some armed men attacked village in (Amrapai).

Indian Forces To Search for Illegal Weapons
BK080345 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0240 GMT 8 Oct 87

[Text] In Sri Lanka, the peacekeeping force is taking steps to search for arms in the troubled Eastern Province. The Indian high commissioner, Mr J.N. Dixit, told our Colombo correspondent, Plabon Majumder, that any civilian carrying illegal arms will be arrested immediately and anybody seen indulging in arson or violence will be shot at. He said the peacekeeping force has now established individual pickets to protect all major Muslim and Sinhalese urban areas in Batticaloa. Each picket has sufficient men and arms.

In locations where there is mixed population of Sinhalese, Tamils, and Muslims, intensified patrolling has been started and major checkpoints have been put up in Batticaloa and Trincomalee. People in outlying places and remote areas have been asked to spend at least the nights in central places like temples, mosques, and churches so that security forces can provide them full protection.

Meanwhile, one of the LTTE leaders of Batticaloa, Suresh, along with one of his accomplices, were arrested by joint patrol of Sri Lankan police and peacekeeping force. Life continues to remain at standstill at Batticaloa this morning with the shops closed and vehicles off the roads.

Indian Troops To Arrest LTTE Leaders
BK080659 Colombo LANKA PUWATH in English
0635 GMT 8 Oct 87

["OANA/pool" item]

[Text] Colombo, Oct 08 (*Lanka Puwath*)—Velupillai Prabhakaran, leader of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam gang of terrorists his chief lieutenant Mahattiya and his cohorts of the gang will be arrested and dealt with according to the laws of Sri Lanka if they commit any violations of the laws of the land, diplomatic sources told *Lanka Puwath*.

They said that the Indian Government had ordered its troops in Sri Lanka to use the strongest measures including shoot on sight orders to bring to a halt the continuing mass massacre of Sinhalese in northern and eastern Sri Lanka.

The diplomatic sources said that so far Prabhakaran and his gang of terrorists, through devious methods had been able to have the cake and eat it but that will end today.

The IPKF [Indian Peacekeeping Force] has been ordered by the Indian Government to take steps to halt terrorist activities immediately.

Meanwhile, there is speculation in official circles in Colombo as to whether Defence Minister of India Mr K.C. Pant will be visiting Sri Lanka later this week.

LTTE Landmine Explosion Kills Officials
BK080931 Colombo LANKA PUWATH in English
0909 GMT 8 Oct 87

["OANA/pool" item]

[Text] Colombo, Oct 8 (*Lanka Puwath*)—Coordinating officer of Batticaloa, Superintendent of Police Nimal de Silva, and the government agent (GA), Anthony Muttu, were killed this afternoon by a LTTE landmine explosion, security sources told *Lanka Puwath*.

Ten policemen were also wounded in this explosion.

1 Officer Killed, 7 Soldiers Wounded in Mannar

BK080859 Colombo LANKA PUWATH in English 0625 GMT 8 Oct 87

["OANA/pool" item]

[Text] Colombo, Oct 08 (*Lanka Puwath*)—One officer was killed and seven soldiers injured in a LTTE landmine explosion in Mannar today, a senior police officer told *Lanka Puwath*.

At Sinhawatte, Batticaloa, seven civilians were killed by LTTE terrorists.

Group Condemns LTTE for 'Barbaric Massacre'

BK081400 Hong Kong AFP in English 1329 GMT 8 Oct 87

[Text] New Delhi, Oct 8 (AFP)—A Tamil rebel group Thursday condemned the dominant separatist organisation the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) for "massacring" members of rival guerrilla groups in Sri Lanka.

A statement released by the Eelam People's Revolutionary Liberation Front (EPRLF) said: "We are grieved and angered over the senseless and barbaric massacre of over 100 civilians by the LTTE in an apparent retaliation for the suicide."

Fifteen of 17 LTTE guerrillas who took cyanide Monday to avoid interrogation by Sri Lankan security forces have died. Since then more than 110 Sinhalese have been killed in a wave of terror in the east of the island blamed on the LTTE.

"The bloody massacre of unarmed and innocent Sinhalese men, women and children is totally unjustifiable," the statement released in Madras said.

The EPRLF is one of several Tamil groups which suffered heavy losses last year when the Tigers tried to wipe it out for alleged criminal activities.

More than 100 cadres and sympathisers of the EPRLF and the People's Liberation Organisation of Tamil Eelam have been killed by the LTTE since India and Sri Lanka signed a peace accord on July 29 in a bid to end the fighting.

Thousands of Sinhalese Refugees Move South

BK071547 Colombo LANKA PUWATH in English 1534 GMT 7 Oct 87

["OANA/pool" item]

[Text] Colombo, Oct 07 (*Lanka Puwath*)—An estimated seven thousand Sinhala refugees are reported to have arrived from the trouble torn districts of Batticaloa and Trincomalee in the east to the southern parts of Sri Lanka. About 2000 of them arrived today at the Colombo Fort Railway Station and were reported to be leaving for their native villages. A senior police official told *Lanka Puwath* that another 5000 had also returned to the south.

The official also said that about 2000 had trekked to Dambulla and Habarana about 60 miles from the troubled spot of Batticaloa according to a police official. They had been harassed by the IPKF [Indian Peacekeeping Force] persistently to leave their homes.

Tamil Nadu Kamaraj Congress Head Visits Jaffna

BK081200 Colombo VIRAKESARI in Tamil 30 Sep 87 p 1

[Text] The leader of the Tamil Nadu Kamaraj Congress Party, Mr P. Nedumaran, who is greatly involved in the struggle of the Tamils of Eelam [Sri Lanka], has come to Jaffna.

Mr Nedumaran also held a news conference with the local newsmen in Jaffna yesterday.

Mr Nedumaran said there had been demonstrations in Tamil Nadu in support of the nonviolent agitation launched by the LTTE in the north and east [of Sri Lanka], and that about 15,000 people were arrested and later released by the Tamil Nadu police. He also pointed out that there was a blackout on such reports. The central and state governments are suppressing news about incidents in Eelam. He said he had come here to see for himself exactly what was happening in Eelam and to tell the people of Tamil Nadu.

It should be noted that Nedumaran visited the north and east when there were clashes between the LTTE and the Sri Lankan Army.

NOTES

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